

THE TIMES



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THE TIMES

Tomorrow

By early tomorrow the complexion of the next Parliament will be known and throughout the night *The Times* will be producing a series of special editions to incorporate the latest election results. At the same time *The Times* team of leading political writers will be assessing events and prospects as they unfold with the unique authority that has been brought to the newspaper's election coverage throughout the campaign.

Saturday

The Times on Saturday will include a 12-page special section listing the whole of the election results in detail, together with biographies of the new MPs; there will be a full list of the Queen's Birthday Honours; the *Saturday* section will provide eight pages of weekend leisure reading; and the sports pages will be previewing World Cup cricket, highlighting the meeting at Headingley between the West Indians and the Australians.

FT index surges to record

Shares surged to a record high, with the FT index of 30 leading companies up 4.4 to 714.7 as investors showed confidence in a Conservative victory in the polls. The pound eased 20 points against a stronger dollar to \$1.57.

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FINANCIAL TIMES

The strike-bound *Financial Times* has failed to appear for the eighth successive day. Meanwhile, the Press Association faces an election night strike by more than 130 members of the National Union of Journalists.

Page 2

Aid team out

The 12 relief workers abducted seven weeks ago by Ethiopian guerrillas have crossed into the Sudanese border town of Kassala, a spokesman for the Tigre People's Liberation Front said. Earlier report page 6

Abortions rise

Britain's illegitimacy and divorce rates are among the highest in the European Community, according to the latest statistics. The number of abortions is rising.

Page 2

Profits shared

After increasing profits by 26 per cent to £20.1m, Hill Samuel, the merchant banking and financial services group, has more than doubled to £7.6m the sum set aside for staff profit-sharing.

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Gallows plea

One of the three African National Congress guerrillas due to be hanged this morning has appealed for a stay of execution as international protests mount.

Page 6

OAU accord

The Organization of African Unity began its first summit in two troubled years after Polisario western Sahara guerrillas agreed to stay away from the meeting in Addis Ababa.

Polisario pull-out, page 6

P & O to reply

Lord Incepear, the P & O chairman is to answer questions from Mr Nigel Brookes, chairman of Trafalgar House, about the group's performance at today's annual meeting.

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Leader page, 17

Letters: On the election, from Lord Hardwick and others; nuclear arms, from the Bishop of Winchester.

Leading articles: Polling day: Conservation strategy. Features, pages 14 and 16.

Bernard Levin on the patience of the fascists; Union threats to press freedom; Ronald Butt on the turning-point election. Spectrum: Up the poll without a vote.

Books, page 15.

Norman Mailer's Egyptian novel gets an admiring thumbs-down from Gay Firth; Fiona MacCarthy reviews *Blue Highways*; the rediscovery of forgotten America; biography of Roy Jenkins; Napoleon; Gerhardine; Robert Nye reviews Elizabeth Bishop; D. M. Thomas, and other poetry. Obituary, page 18. Sir David Collins, Mr Burnett Gaffey.

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• Thatcher hope • Foot appeal • Steel warning



The last day: Mrs Thatcher, Mr Foot and Mr Steel as they ended their campaigns yesterday.

Labour defiant as Tories head for landslide victory

● The Conservatives are still heading for a landslide victory but Mrs Thatcher's target of half the popular vote seems unlikely to be achieved.

● The Cabinet "think-tank", set up by Mr Edward Heath 13 years ago, faces extinction if Mrs Thatcher is returned.

● Mr Francis Pym, Foreign Secretary, accused the Labour Party of deliberately ignoring the EEC issue because it was a vote-loser (page 5).

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Britain's one-month election campaign ended last night with the Conservative Party apparently as certain as when it began to secure an overwhelming majority over the Labour Party in the new Parliament.

The Conservative leader, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, seeking a second parliamentary term as Prime Minister, confided to *The Times* that she would "dearly love a majority of votes" to confirm the Government's authority. No party has achieved that since 1955.

But Mrs Thatcher seemed certain to be disappointed in that hope, if in no other, when the polls close at 10 o'clock tonight and the first projection of the national outcome is broadcast. The strong showing of the Liberals and the Social Democratic Party, in electoral alliance, for whose candidates a quarter of Britain's 42.5 million voters seemed up to last night prepared to vote, puts out of reach the target of 50 per cent of the popular vote.

But that same Alliance strength, by eating into the Labour Party's natural base, offers Mrs Thatcher's Conservatives a bigger majority of parliamentary seats than any party has enjoyed since the Second World War.

No such outcome was countenanced yesterday by the Labour Party and its leader, Mr Michael Foot, who at his last campaign press conference at Westminster said Labour was out to win and bravely forecast a "very fine result".

At Ebbw Vale in his Blaenavon constituency, Mr Foot made his last campaign speech, warning voters that under a new Tory government the National Health Service would become "a fond but distant memory" and that billions would be spent keeping a fifth of the workforce on the dole.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, in a series of meetings in the Borders towns, gave warning against "the arrogance of power" of a Conservative government with a swollen majority.

● The biggest and noisiest demonstration of Mrs Thatcher's campaign tour provoked her into revealing her contempt for the Labour Party.

● The rift in Liberal/SDP defence policy was confirmed when Dr David Owen said an Alliance government would use Polaris.

● The Prime Minister endorsed a bitter attack made on proportional representation by Mr Michael Foot at the Labour press conference (page 4).

Protest provokes Tory contempt

By Philip Webster

Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday faced the biggest and noisiest demonstration of her election campaign tour and was provoked into revealing her contempt for the Labour Party.

As about 300 protesters carrying Labour banners tried to shout her down during an open-air speech in Wiltshire, Mrs Thatcher turned on them angrily and exclaimed: "How pathetic the party you support. How pathetic you are." It was by far her most bitter outburst of the campaign.

The demonstration came in the unlikely setting of the marketplace at Salisbury where Mrs Thatcher had been greeted by a crowd of about 1,000.

As Mrs Thatcher listed the reasons for voting Conservative hecklers interrupted her many times. She condemned the campaign tactics of other parties whom she said were running totally false scares because they dare not debate their own manifestos or the true issues.

At that the protest reached a climax and Mrs Thatcher replied: "You stand there shouting because you have no arguments. How pathetic the party you support. How pathetic you are. Just standing there shouting and with banners because you have not got any arguments left."

Mrs Thatcher used the last speech of the tour to reiterate her main campaign themes - extolling her party's policy on defence, sound finance, employment, the health service and pensions.

'Think tank' may be killed

By Peter Hennessy

There is a strong possibility that Mrs Margaret Thatcher, if she wins today, will disband the Central Policy Review Staff, the Cabinet's "think tank", as part of post-election changes in the geology and geography of Whitehall.

She believes the unit, invented by Mr Edward Heath 13 years ago, has lost its way and outlived its usefulness.

One of its functions, that of long-term strategic analysis, could be transferred to a new planning staff which would form part of an enlarged Prime Minister's office.

Other alterations in No 10 would include the Rayner unit, the eight-member efficiency team founded by Lord Rayner, chairman of Marks and Spencer now housed in the Management and Personnel Office (MPO).

The MPO will almost certainly disappear, the bulk of its work and staff amalgamating with the Treasury while its security role and the Civil Service commission, Whitehall's recruitment agency, will remain under the Cabinet Office umbrella.

Other possible changes that will be considered by Mrs Thatcher when reconstructing her cabinet include the demise of the Department of Industry.

Despite substantial preparatory work on options for change by her advisers Mrs Thatcher has yet, in the words of an insider, "to think these things through, you cannot be sure that anything will happen at all".

Mrs Thatcher used the last speech of the tour to reiterate her main campaign themes - extolling her party's policy on defence, sound finance, employment, the health service and pensions.

Owen statement confirms Alliance rift on defence

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Dr David Owen yesterday

confirmed the rift in Alliance

policy over the independent

British nuclear deterrent when he

was told Mr Norman Tebbit, in a

radio discussion, that an Alliance

government would use

Polaris as a weapon of last

resort.

Earlier, at their daily press conference, Mr Roy Jenkins and Mr David Steel denied a report in yesterday's *Times* that there was any "significant difference" between the Liberals and the Social Democrats on the future role of the deterrent.

Mr Jenkins had said on

Tuesday that an Alliance

government could maintain

"our independent deterrent for

a substantial period ahead" - in

spite of Mr Steel's announce-

ment, last December, that the

two parties had agreed that

there would be no "independent

use" of Polaris.

He repeated that the Alliance

would be willing to trade Polaris

for suitable reductions in Soviet

strategic weaponry, but he

added: "Until that happened,

there would be no change in the

command and control pro-

cedures."

Dr Owen replied: "Yes, Polaris is under, at the moment, Nato commanders but there is the capacity for it to come under Britain in a situation in which Britain faced, as it saw it, a threat to its national interest. That had been the situation with Polaris and it would not change."

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On Friday next week, a team of tennis professionals, including Vijay Amritraj, Roscoe Tanner, Gene Mayer, Peter Fleming, Buster Mottram and David Lloyd, are giving up

their time to play in the Bratton Pro-Celebrity Tennis

Tournament against a team of celebrities which includes Kevin Keegan, James Hunt, Jodi Scheckler, Trevor Eve, Desmond Lyneham, JPR Williams and Peter Jay.

Tennis enthusiasts will have the chance to challenge

one of the stars. And as an added bonus you will have a

single tape of your match to keep as a souvenir — so bring

along your tennis kit.

Or simply watch the tournament of a lifetime from the

grandstand and enjoy the atmosphere of this very special

event.

For ticket reservations now,

phone Lucinda Sturgis on

Tickets also available from Central London branches of

Keith Prowse.

Spanish firm to claim salvage on Harrier jet

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

The Spanish company Naviera Garcia-Mitaur is to make a salvage claim on the £7m Royal Navy Harrier jump jet which made a forced landing on one of its ships off Portugal.

Under normal salvage procedure a settlement is negotiated before the recovered craft is returned to its owners. In this case it is not clear whether Garcia-Mitaur will keep the Harrier before settling with the British Defence Ministry.

A lawyer representing the company was scheduled to fly to the Canary Islands last night to be on hand for the arrival today of the Alraigo, the 2,300-tonne cargo ship on which the Harrier pilot landed after failing to locate his carrier, HMS Illustrious.

A spokesman for the ship owners also claimed that a bomb had fallen off the jet and bounced across the deck as the aircraft set down on a cluster of containers just forward of the bridge on Monday evening 120 miles south-west of Oporto. The bomb did not explode, but it frightened members of the ship's crew, he said.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman, when questioned about the Spanish Government's attitude regarding a possible salvage claim, expressed surprise and said he would have to consult with his superiors.

Both the Foreign Ministry and the shipping company admitted that the case was unprecedented, and said the outcome would be interesting regardless of the amount of compensation, if any, which is eventually paid.

Sub-lieutenant Ian Watson, aged 25, said in telephone conversations from the Alraigo

BTR wins control of Tilling in £660m bid

By Our Financial Staff

Britain's largest company takeover bid ended last night as BTR, an engineering and energy group, won control of Thomas Tilling in a £660m deal.

The victory put the market value of the combined group among Britain's top 10 companies.

Britain high in EEC league of illegitimacy and divorce

By Ian Murray

The illegitimacy and divorce rates in Britain are among the highest in the EEC, according to figures published yesterday by the European Commission.

They show that 125 of every 1,000 people born in Britain are illegitimate, with only France (126) and Denmark (337) higher. At the same time, the divorce rate of 2.8 per thousand of the population is equalled by Denmark, but is significantly higher than any other country except Holland (two per thousand).

The detailed figures, in 205 pages of tables, also show that legal abortion in Britain are increasing steadily, though the number of non-British people receiving them has decreased steadily since 1973.

If the statistical predictions are correct the average British boy born now can expect to live for 69.8 years, and the average girl for 75.9 years. Only French, Danish and Dutch children can expect to live longer. The figures also show that only the West German has a higher proportion of people over 65 in good health and drawing pensions.

For the first time the annual EEC statistics look at the number of foreign residents in each country. In Britain's case these total 2,137,000 of whom 673,000 come from other community countries and 1,464,000 from third world countries. France, which has a similar total population to Britain, has almost 3,500,000.

Builders will hold interest at 10%

By Barrie Phillips, Property Correspondent

Leading housebuilders have ignored the prospect of higher mortgage rates by freezing their interest rates for home buyers at 10 per cent.

A rise in mortgage interest rates of at least one percentage point now looks certain and it is felt in some quarters that the rate could increase to 11.5 per cent with such builders as Wimpey, Leech Homes, and Combe, which are likely to construct 16,000 houses and flats this year, are promising buyers they will freeze interest rates at 10 per cent for at least a year.

But such builders as Wimpey, Leech Homes, and Combe, which are likely to construct 16,000 houses and flats this year, are promising buyers they will freeze interest rates at 10 per cent for at least a year.

Leech, which is building between 2,000 and 3,000 new homes in the North, will apply the freeze to all sales contracted by the end of September.

Mr David Eaton, sales director of Wimpey Homes said his company had already pegged mortgage rates at 10 per cent for all sales until July 1, 1984. Wimpey expects to build between 10,500 and 11,000 homes this year, 73 per cent of which will go to first-time buyers.

Mr Ian Montgomery, marketing manager of the Bristol-based Combe group, said he expected to introduce a freeze after a board meeting today. The scheme, however, would apply only to first-time buyers.

Commercial property, page 22

No action against lawyer for 'retake streets' call

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Bar Council is not to take any action against Mr Rudi Narayan, the leading black rights barrister, over his call to people in Lambeth, south London to repossess the streets from the police.

Mr Narayan, who already faces disciplinary proceedings by the Bar Council, made his remarks at a rowdy meeting on Tuesday night of the Lambeth Community Police Liaison Group.

He said at the meeting: "If it is necessary to fight a war of resistance to get them (the police) out off the street as a taxpayer I will lead it".

But yesterday Sir Arthur Power, secretary to the Senate of the Inns of Court and the Bar, said: "A barrister can operate in the political field and there is a wide latitude as to what a barrister is allowed in this field."

"In this particular case it is probably fair to say Mr Narayan was operating in a political field rather than a legal one.



Mr Narayan: Pledged to lead resistance.

NUJ urges 'black' on poll night reports

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Union of Journalists yesterday asked its 32,000 members to "black" election night copy from the Press Association in support of a 48-hour official strike by NUJ members employed at the national news agency.

More than 130 NUJ journalists are seeking to disrupt the PA service from 10pm tonight in support of efforts to make the company's management improve its 7 per cent package pay offer.

Mr Jacob Ecclestone, the union's deputy general secretary, said: "We are arguing, urging and exhorting all members not to handle PA copy or supply copy to PA." The guidance to members stops short of an instruction, which might fall foul of the legal ban on most "secondary action" introduced in the 1980 Employment Act.

This provision was enacted after a celebrated court case, *Express Newspapers v MacShane*, in which the Law Lords upheld the right of journalists to the *Daily Express* to "black" PA copy under existing labour law.

Indications last night were that the NUJ request to its members will get a mixed response. Staff at *The Guardian* voted not to handle PA copy, but *Express* journalists overwhelmingly rejected the idea. Other Fleet Street NUJ chapters were considering their position. In Scotland, a "solid" response to the request was reported.

The union said in a statement yesterday: "The NUJ today declared official a strike of its members at the Press Association, due to begin as the polling booths close. The 48-hour stoppage is being called because of an unsatisfactory response by management, which shared a £2.3m profit last year, to a claim for improved wages and conditions."

"In support of the NUJ's 135 members at the Press Association, the union's 32,000 members are being asked not to do anything which would undermine their strike, particularly the supply of election results for the PA or the taking of results from television screens."

Salaries at the PA for journalists range up to £12,150, according to the union. Management has offered 6.5 per cent on salaries plus a further 1% per cent on holidays and productivity money.

Mr Ecclestone said that the NUJ had responded positively to approaches from the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service for exploratory peace talks, but he accused management of rejecting these overtures. Repeated attempts to secure the views of Mr David Chipp, editor-in-chief of the PA, failed yesterday.

Mortgage rates were cut from 12 to 10 per cent last December, which has helped increase house buying. Prices have risen sharply, by as much as 10 per cent in areas like London and the South East.

A one point rise in mortgage rates would mean the average new borrower paying an extra £7.65 a month on a £17,000 loan. But buyers in the South East, who are taking out loans of about £25,000, would face an increase of £11.25.

Commercial property, page 22

Muslim is banned for beating

A mosque has been closed and the Muslim priest dismissed after he beat two boys during religious instruction. Their schoolteacher called in the police and social workers when the boys told him of their punishment.

Urdu leaflets are now being circulated among Sheffield's 15,000 Muslim community outlining the law on child abuse. But yesterday, a Muslim leader in the city, Dr Karim Admani, defended the community's strictures on child discipline.

Dr Admani, president of Sheffield's Muslim Council, said: "We do not really believe in soft soaping our children. We believe in discipline, and perhaps people do not like it."

The beatings at the Jannah Mosque in Fir Vale, Sheffield, led to a special meeting of the city's Moslem Council, attended by police and social service officials. The meeting decided to send out the leaflets.

Dr Admani said that although the Moslem community did not condone what had happened, "We have little faith in the system of social workers because they do not understand our culture."

Mr Narayan, a resident of Lambeth and chairman of a body called Black Rights UK, faces several charges of professional misconduct arising out of his alleged behaviour as defence counsel in the Terence May murder trial at the Central Criminal Court last year.

"In this particular case it is probably fair to say Mr Narayan was operating in a political field rather than a legal one."

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Science report

Life may have had many false starts

By the Staff of *Nature*

Life on Earth may have begun as many as 10 times with only one branch surviving until the present, two American geophysicists are claiming.

Life is based on the tremendous variability of polypeptides such as proteins, composed of chains of amino acids. The conceivable number of polypeptide chains is almost infinite, according to Dr David M. Raup, of the University of Chicago, and Dr James W. Valentine, of the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Therefore, they argue, the particular set of polypeptides of which we and the rest of life on Earth are composed is only one of many that could be the basis of some form of life.

Dr Raup and Dr Valentine thus raise the possibility that life did begin with a variety of different polypeptide groups thus a variety of different biochemistries, in many different places on Earth. However, now we have only one biochemistry; so the two researchers are forced to explain why only one might have survived.

To do so, they turn to their calculators. Biologists have a simple formula which determines the probability of survival, for, say, 100 million years, of some branch of the evolutionary tree (all insects, for example).

It depends on two quantities: the probability that a branch will branch again, and the probability of extinction of a sub-branch. From the fossil record, there are broad estimates of these numbers, so Dr Raup and Dr Valentine are able to calculate, roughly speaking, how long an initial biochemistry is likely to survive.

In practice, however, the researchers face the problem that branching and extinction probabilities are known only when a fossil record exists, which means, essentially, only in the Cambrian geological period after 600 million years ago and later.

But life had its origins much earlier, perhaps 3,600 million years ago. So do the Cambrian values apply? Dr Raup and Dr Valentine cannot say but work their way through a series of calculations until they arrive at two tables. One estimates the probability that present life is the sole survivor of a number of life starts, for different numbers of life starts and different values of the sub-branch extinction rate.

The second table estimates the probability that life survives at all; that, clearly, increases in the opposite direction.

The true case, the researchers suggest, lies somewhere near the middle" of both tables.

Source: Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (US) (vol 80, p2985, May, 1983). ©Nature-Times News Service, 1983.



Mr David Broome, of the British showjumping team, carrying a wreath at yesterday's funeral at Priors Marston, Warwickshire, of Caroline Bradley, the showjumper, who died last week.

Surreal wife wins painter £7,000

By Christopher Warmar, Arts Correspondent

A portrait combining surrealism with the even more modern concept of television has won the £7,000 John Player portrait award, made in association with the National Portrait Gallery.

The oil painting, by Michael Taylor, aged 31, is called "Caroline watching Television", and features his wife. Mr Taylor, who said yesterday that he was a figure portrait painter, wins £6,000 and receives a commission worth £1,000 for a portrait of a "well-known sitter" which will go to the gallery's contemporary portrait collection.

The presentation was made yesterday by Sir Hugh Casson, president of the Royal Academy, which has shown some of Taylor's work. It has also turned down some of his offering.

The judges, who included the artist Peter

Blakes, and Professor Sir Lawrence Gowling, head of the Slade School of Fine Art in London, described the work as "a magical picture which is beautifully painted and gives one a great deal to think about. It has a convincing surreal element, uncommon in portraiture, and is very inventive. It is a highly personal and in a curious way, a very English painting, very positively drawn with a wonderful control of colour".

Mr Taylor's wife, whose likeness is the portrait, is not flattered, nevertheless said she approved of the work.

Second in the competition, from which about 50 works will form an exhibition throughout the summer, was Daphne Todd, who wins £750, and Carey Blundin (£500) was third.

Jail study analyses trend to suicide

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Remand and life-sentence prisoners are among the most likely to commit suicide in jail, according to preliminary research completed for an inquiry by Sir James Hennessy, Chief Inspector of Prisons.

The study also finds that long-term prisoners are more prone to suicides if they have committed sex crimes. Prisoners committing suicide tend to be slightly older than other inmates.

Meanwhile, talks at Acas on the machine room dispute at the *Financial Times* went into a second day yesterday with no clear sign of an early end. The dispute prevented publication for the eighth successive day.

Actual numbers have also risen because the prison population has increased and become more difficult with a consequent strain on the system. In 1981, the last year for which figures are available, there were 16 suicides, all by hanging, and one death by misadventure after a mattress was set alight.

Mr David Jenkins, director of the Howard League for Penal Reform, is to tell Sir James that general research into suicides suggest they can be prevented. Most victims contact someone before the attempt and decide their intention directly or indirectly.

Sixty per cent of suicides has come out by Mr Sidney Powell, secretary of the prison governors' branch of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, and the Samaritans were better at recognizing potential suicides than general practitioners or nurses, Mr Jenkins said.

The preliminary research is being carried out by Mr Jenkins to establish what their own service priorities may be. But he gave a warning that auditors would in future, be presenting reports on value for money directly to elected councillors.

Rates check group expansion

By David Walker

A large number of jobs are being offered at the commission recently created by the Government to check that councils are providing ratepayers with value for money.

Some 55 posts are being created for accountants to supplement the staff of the Local Government Audit Commission, which monitors council's books. Although the commission is supposed to encourage councils to use private auditors, the commissioners have found since they started work on April 1 that some private companies do not have the expertise to conduct adequate surveys of council spending.

Speaking at the annual conference of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, Mr John Read, chairman of the commission, denied he was building an empire. He promised that the commission's headquarters staff would be kept as small as possible. But council treasurers complained that the commission is raising the fees for audit work by up to 50 per cent.

Mr Read was at pains to reassure councils that the commission was not going to interfere with their spending. "It is up to local authorities to establish what their own service priorities may be." But he gave a warning that auditors would in future, be presenting reports on value for money directly to elected councillors.

With Mrs Legrand's mother, Mrs Winifred Grace Cooper,

Yard check on 'sale' of A-level pages

Scotland Yard was last night investigating the removal of A-level examination papers from the University of London Exam Centre, and allegations that stolen papers were being sold for £100 each.

About 5,500 pupils who sat A-level French yesterday in London and at schools in the south-east may be asked to retake the examination with a new paper, and a history A-level test scheduled for next Thursday may be cancelled, depending on the outcome of police investigations.

Police were called in by *The Standard*, the London evening newspaper, after it had been handed the papers by a man who said he worked in the university.

The newspaper said its informant, whose name has not been given, to the police or university authorities, did not ask for any payment for the documents. He was "seething with indignation" about the lax security which made it so easy for him to remove them.

He was reported in *The Standard* yesterday as saying: "Security is a joke absolutely appalling. Basically anyone can take these papers from the place they are being kept. I've heard there are quite a few missing, and they are selling at up to £100 a time."

Mr Alan Stephenson, secretary of the London University Examination Board, which sets A-level and O level examinations for nearly 500,000 students in London and the South-east, said yesterday: "If this man was worried about security, why did he not come to us?"

Mr Stephenson confirmed that the papers given to *The Standard* were genuine. "Obviously I cannot be happy about security if question papers are taken out. We are checking our security arrangements, and we will have to institute stricter procedures."

He said number of people would have access to the papers along the route, but in this case they were in security store in Chequers Street, Bloomsbury, with only one means of access. It must have been "an inside job".

The newspaper's informant was reported to have said he knew it was wrong to take the papers, but felt something had to be done about security. He said the examination papers came in January, and extra part-time staff were taken on to prepare for the summer term; any of them would have access, he said.

Mr Stephenson speculated that the private students, who are few in number compared with schools, would be more likely to form a market for stolen examination papers.

The only other recent instance of papers going missing was last June, when A-level papers were stolen from Highbury School. They were set by the Oxford and Cambridge Examinations Board. When they became known, replacement papers were issued within a week.

Speaking at the annual conference of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, Mr John Read, chairman of the commission, denied he was building an empire. He promised that the commission's headquarters staff would be kept as small as possible



Geoffrey Smith

COMMENT

From first to last this campaign has been dominated by Mrs Thatcher. She is not the only Prime Minister in the postwar years to have exercised such an influence over an election: Churchill in 1945, Macmillan in 1959 and Wilson in 1970 – all of them not only personalised the appeal of their party, but also seemed to take up most of the political stage. The campaign in each case revolved around their personalities.

Yet none of them offers a precise comparison with Mrs Thatcher's performance in 1983. For all their personal dominance, Churchill and Wilson led their parties to catastrophic defeat, while Mrs Thatcher will register the biggest political surprise of the century if she fails now to win a resounding triumph.

Macmillan was both dominant and triumphant. He also succeeded, like Mrs Thatcher, in pulling the Conservatives up from a mid-term trough. Indeed, in one sense, his achievement in restoring Conservative morale after Suez was even more remarkable than Mrs Thatcher's has been.

Yet not even Macmillan at the height of his powers exercised quite such a personal sway over the political scene. He represented his party, he did not have a drawing power that was essentially distinct from it. But one of the curiosities of this campaign has been to hear people quite frequently describe themselves on the doorstep not as Conservatives but as Thatchers.

How has she managed to have such an appeal? Honour was an important part of the armoury of Churchill, Macmillan and Wilson. Most great British leaders have been people in whom the human juices flowed. But Mrs Thatcher exudes neither a sense of humanity, and certainly no sense of human frailty. The powers of the Presidency, Adlai Stevenson said in 1952, were such as to "smother

Dangers in the Falklands factor

Thatcher and Foot find agreement in PR attack

By John Winder

The Prime Minister and Mr Foot found themselves in agreement yesterday when Mrs Thatcher endorsed a bitter attack on proportional representation by the Labour leader.

It was one of two questions posed to Mr Foot at the Labour press conference yesterday which were based upon the possibility of a Labour defeat today. He told a journalist who asked if his name would go forward to the party conference as leader if the party was defeated tomorrow: "I am not contemplating failure but I am contemplating failure but victory tomorrow, so the question does not arise."

At first Mr Foot attempted to give the same treatment to the question about the feelings of the electorate if it put the Alliance into second place but the Labour Party won more seats with fewer votes. That, he said, was entirely hypothetical.

A few moments later, after one of his colleagues had replied to another question, Mr Foot returned voluntarily to the subject.

"I am very sorry Liberals do not try to sustain this principle of democracy. I do not say there are not other forms of democracy, but this one is very important."

"I do not believe that the party machine should dictate to MPs in all circumstances. That is contrary to our ideas of democracy in this country."

When Mrs Thatcher was told that Mr Foot had attacked proportional representation she said: "That is one aspect on which we can agree. Many people in the Alliance party agreed when they were in the Labour Party."

The eyes have it in Thatcherland

By Alan Hamilton

The body may be absent on affairs of state, but the face is inescapable. Mrs Thatcher's steady, steely gaze peers in profusion from the hedges and drooping willows of Finchley's front gardens, their careful suburban manicure a perfect match for the immaculate hairstyle on the full-colour poster.

The eyes seem to watch with disapproval peeping surreptitiously from among the greenery, until you feel like a naughty boy on an apple-stealing mission as you creep about in search of the other parties' headquarters.

It is barely conceivable that Mrs Thatcher should lose the seat she has held in seven contests since 1959, yet Finchley is no unassailable Tory bastion, and it is likely to become less so. She first took the seat 24 years ago with a majority of 16,250, a margin which by the 1979 election had been whittled away to 7,878, a drop at least partly explained by a considerably reduced electoral roll.

Her share of the vote gradually slipped over the years, but she recovered most of it in 1979, although the swing to the Tories in Finchley was only 4.8 per cent, compared with 5.2 per cent nationally.

This year she has paid seven visits to her constituency. Her agent, Mr Andrew Thomson, a volatile energetic Scot, adopts a visage of near-religious joy

CONSTITUENCY PROFILE

Colne Valley

Rivals' feud fuels brutal fight

Candidates
R Wainwright (L/All)
J Holt (C)
T L Keen (Ind)
A Williams (Lab)

Profile of COLNE VALLEY

1981 % Own Occ	73
% Loc Auth	15
% Local Asian	2
1981 % Mid Cl	46
1981 % Prof man	18
1982 electorate	68,955
1979 BBC/ITN national result: Lab 2,200	(over C)

Key: % Owner Occ proportion owning their own home; % Loc auth proportion of council tax authority; % Local Asian; % Mid Cl; % Prof man; electorate; BBC/ITN national result: Lab 2,200

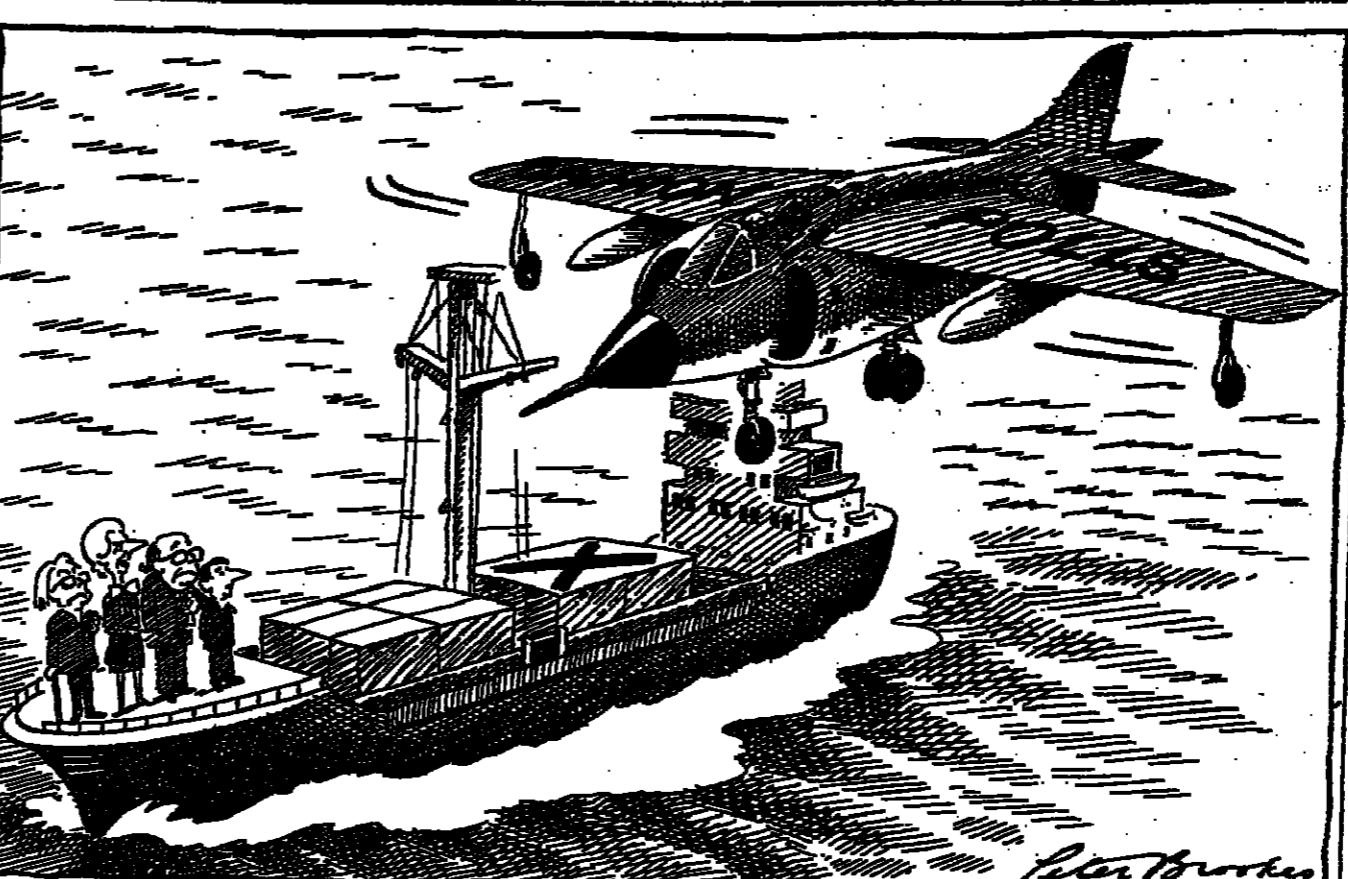
Local election results: Wainwright R, S. G.J. 1981, 1982; Holt C, 1981; Keen T.L., Williams A, 1982; BBC/ITN 1982; Keen T.L., Williams A, 1982

habits and the signs are that Mr Wainwright's 13-year tenure as a local MP may soon end.

Local bookmakers have now made Mr Holt evens favourite with Mr Wainwright quoted at 7-4 and Mr David Williams, the Labour candidate, at 2-1 against.

Saddleworth, with its estimated 7,000 Liberal voters, has disappeared in boundary changes, as has the so-called "socialist republic" of Derby Dale. Labour can gain comfort from the incoming area of Crosland Moor, where they expect a preponderance of votes.

But for Mr Wainwright there is no such succour. Pundits believe that to stand a realistic chance of winning, he has to reorganise his changed woo voters in the new area of dramatically many of the old Lindley, which is a daunting



Pin-point accuracy?

Chancellor cuts fine figure

By Rodney Cowton

The Conservative campaign truck moved away from the centre of Newport, Isle of Wight, bearing the Chancellor of the Exchequer monogrammar the wrong way down a one-way street.

That induced a paroxysm of indignation among bystanders, one of whom looked to the right direction to wrest The Island, as it is referred to, from the Liberal, Mr Stephen Ross. Sir Geoffrey Howe was there as part of a day in Wexford, to help the momentum of Mrs Bottomley's campaign.

After the Prime Minister, Sir Geoffrey has been perhaps the central figure in Mrs Thatcher's administration, holding the Government as firmly as he could to its chosen economic strategy.

When heard on radio and television his manner of speaking is as emphatic, so muted, that one marvels that he has the strength of personality to be so stern a Chanceller.

Seeing him on the stump in the Isle of Wight things become a little clearer. In the flesh his manner is more direct and outgoing. On walkabouts he wastes no time on those who truculently refuse his hand, but when someone good-naturedly declines, Sir Geoffrey insists: "Yes, you must, shaking hands is good for you."

His hand feels strong and heavy, as though it was not unused to physical work. His physique is curious, short in the leg and long in the body, plump but with a yeoman's frame underlying it. Suddenly one realises that manner and body are in harmony, a superficial, Wykehamist difference, and a degree of bodily flab, both concealing a fairly implacable strength.

He resolutely rejects demands for special tax concessions for various sectional interests, and at Southampton delivers a little homily on the sit of promising too much.

Regional survey

Widening North-South rift

By Ronald Faux

The strong running of the Conservatives in the polls has threatened to deepen the traditional divide between North and South with some dark spectres materialising around Sheffield. The leader of the left-wing controlled city council has written to *The Times*, giving a warning that political leaders in areas hardest hit by Conservative policies would be demanding maximum separation from central government. Those who had the privilege of leading large and powerful communities, Mr David Blunkett wrote, would have to take whatever steps were necessary to protect the lives and wellbeing of their people.

The expectation in the northern constituencies is that Mr Blunkett will have his divide and that Labour will hold its hard core of seats with some erosion around the edges but nothing that should seriously threaten the powerful Labour enclaves in South Yorkshire, Manchester and Liverpool.

New constituency boundaries, a touch of internecine warfare here and there and some strong hopes for the SDF/Alliance could cause some unexpected results in the North and the departure from Parliament of some well-known northern MPs. The ultra-militant Mr Wall, standing as the official Labour candidate against the

former MP, Mr Ben Ford, in Bradford North is a prime example of the divisions within the Labour Party itself. Mr Ford is standing as independent Labour. Next door in Bradford West Mr Edward Lyons, the sitting member who switched to the SDP, faces another left-wing Labour candidate in Mr Max Madden, the former MP for Sowerby. Mr Madden decided against fighting his old constituency, or the three-fifths of it that remain in the sprawling new boundaries of Calder Valley. The new area has a far less predictable political future than Bradford West where there is a strong Labour tradition.

On Merseyside the fact that local government recently swung into the hands of the extreme left appears not to be helping Labour, particularly in the newly-created constituency of Liverpool Broadgreen. The contest there has been bitter between a militant Marxist, a rebel Liberal, and official Alliance candidate and a right-wing Tory.

An elder statesman bows out

By Ian Bradley

Mr Jo Grimond has been contemplating this election with mixed emotions. At a national level he sees his long-held dream of a realignment on the left in British politics becoming a reality as the Liberal-SDP Alliance overtakes Labour in the polls.

However, at a personal level he is sad that he will not be in the new Parliament elected today since, on the eve of his seventieth birthday he decided to leave politics after 33 years at MP for Orkney and Shetland.

Last week he undertook a gruelling five-day tour of hopeful Alliance seats from London to Caithness and Sutherland.

This week he has been touring the islands of his old constituency in order to ensure that they stay in Liberal hands.

Mr Grimond is amazed at the tactical mistakes which he feels Labour have made in this campaign. He sees it as a collapse from the top.

"It is amazing to me that Labour have not fielded Eric Varley and Peter Shore more.



Mr Jo Grimond: A personal manifesto.

To swing from Michael Foot, whom I regard as a hypocrite of the first order, to the arch bully Denis Healey is crazy.

"My experience of elections is that at least a quarter of the voters do not make up their minds until the last week. To address these floating voters as if they were the party faithful with your most abrasive characters is a great mistake."

In many ways, Mr Grimond feels that the Liberals have become too organized at the

expense of developing radical new ideas.

In an effort to promote some of the ideas which he hopes the Alliance will take up, Mr Grimond has written a personal manifesto which was published as a book last week.

Its ideas, however, seem closer to those of Mrs Thatcher than to the SDP-Liberal Alliance. It firmly rejects a statutory incomes policy, calls for considerably more denationalization and flirtis with the idea of education vouchers and the free market of the Institute of Economic Affairs.

Mr Grimond, however, still sees himself as being closer to the Alliance than to the Thatcherite Conservatives. In the long term he hopes the Alliance will become less bland and conservative and strike out in a more radical and libertarian direction, attacking bureaucracy and centralisation and switch the emphasis to how well it performs.

Business leaders and, more appropriately, nationalised industry chairmen themselves, have been convinced that privatisation is good. The Alliance, however, says: "We must get away from the incessant and damaging warfare over the ownership of industry and switch the emphasis to how well it performs".

Proporations of state-owned companies sold by Conservative Government since 1979 and value of share of

Cable and Wireless 50% 21%

Associated British Ports 45% 21%

British Aerospace 50% 15%

British Transport Hotels 51% 38%

British Rail 100% 62%

American International 100% 62%

National Freight Corporation 100% 62%

Broadway Hotels 17.5% 62%

Conservative Standard Bank for privatisation, British Railways, British Telecom, British Airways, parts of British Steel, British Shipbuilders, St. Mungo, most state-owned airports, British Gas to be introduced into National Bus Company and gas and electricity industries

CONSTITUENCY PROFILE

Tooting

Alliance plays a losing card

CANDIDATES

T. Cox (Lab)

P. Barbridge (NP)

E. Harris (C)

L. Lewis (Comm)

J. Nemberger (SDP/AI)

H. Patel (Edin Min)

C. Redgrave (WRP)

M. E. Shaw (Eco)

Profile of Tooting

1981 % Own Occ

% Loc Auth

% Local Asian

% Mid Cl

% Prof Man

1982 electorate

1979 BBC/ITN national result: Lab 5,600

Lab 5,600

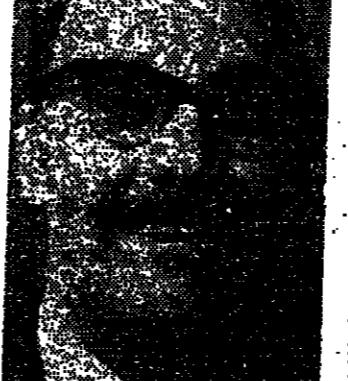
who have traditionally given Labour its majority in Tooting.

For 13 years Tooting, on the old boundaries, returned as its Labour MP Mr Tom Cox, who is standing again "Lacklustre", the Social Democrats call him; but elsewhere, including the Conservative camp, Mr Cox is a "nice chap" with an acknowledged record of constituency case-work. Handily an ornament of the legislative chamber, Mr Cox seems to be the type of MP who cannot walk down Balfour High Street without a cheery greeting from a constituent he has helped in some way.

Despite voting for Mr Denis Healey in the Labour leadership stakes, Mr Cox's position has not been threatened, although some have noted a higher ratio of self-consciously left-wing rhetoric in the campaign literature.

Beyond what the respective manifestos say about peace, jobs, freedom and a fresh start, the issues in Tooting are these. Mr Cox is seeking to mesh his constituency service record with criticism of hospital closure and Wandsworth council. Conservative-run since 1978, predicted David Walker.

Mr Tom Cox: Strong record of service.



Mr Tom Cox: Strong record of service.

THE ISSUES

STATE INDUSTRIES

Public good versus private gain

By Edward Townsend Industrial Correspondent

Few subjects cause such polarization of Britain's two main political parties as nationalization. It is a concept that forms part of the bedrock of socialism while striking fear into the hearts of supporters of free enterprise.

Pym accuses Labour

Pym criticizes Labour for ignoring 'vote losing' EEC

By Amanda Haigh

Mr Francis Pym, Secretary of State for Foreign Commonwealth Affairs, yesterday accused the Labour Party of deliberately ignoring the EEC during the election campaign because they knew it was a vote-loser.

"It is because the Labour Party realizes taking us out is a very unpopular line and the British people realize it is very much in our interests politically and economically to remain the Community. For that reason it has not really been an issue. There is no doubt we have won the argument decisively," he said at the Conservatives' early morning press conference.

Moments earlier, at the Labour conference, Mr Michael Foot had been asked why he had not included withdrawal from the EEC among the five priorities he has just set out for a future Labour Government. None of the Labour press conferences has been devoted to this issue and Mr Eric Heffer, the party's European and Community affairs spokesman, has not been used at the conferences.

Mr Foot said there had been no exclusion or attempt to

THE TIMES THURSDAY JUNE 9 1983

5

Powell faces toughest fight

Guide to broadcasting

ELECTION JUNE 83

Hiding doubt in the green hills of co. Down

rough, widow of Northern Ireland Prime Minister between 1942-63, was there and in case no one had noticed the audience were reminded that she came from old Loyalist stock and was lending her support.

Even the Queen and Queen Mother got a mention in a speech in which the local assembly representative castigated the Democratic Unionist Party before making an inadvertent slip when he advised people to put a cross at the name of Mr Powell which was "at the bottom of the poll".

While other speakers attack their opponents and warn of the danger of handing the seat to a Republican, Mr Powell has struck throughout to three themes. They are passionately expounded with all his formidable logic.

His 300-strong audience of ruddy-faced country people do not appear to warm to him but are impressed that someone of his international standing is their candidate, backing their cause.

Nowhere is too small for him to stop and nowhere is too hostile a territory. "I am now going to talk to the sheep at the crossroads, then I will do the impossible, and make a Unionist speech in Castlewelling," he announced on leaving a small pebbledashed housing estate.

He did both with only one house at the crossroads, and in Castlewelling the Provisional Sinn Fein banners were fluttering across the main street.

Official Unionist hopes are high that Mr Powell will hold the seat, but even among the

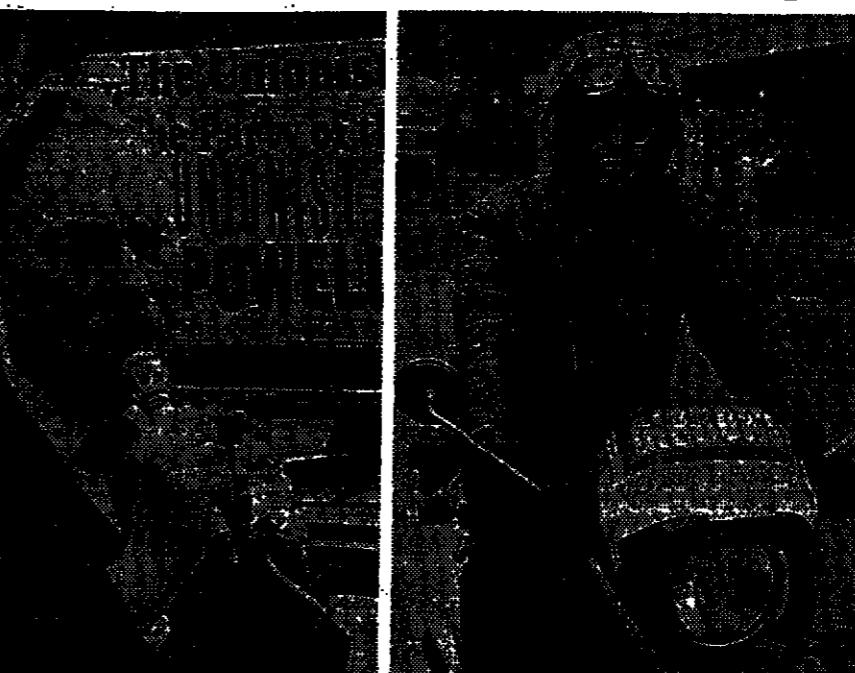
party faithful, there are doubts

that a man acknowledged as a fine constituency MP will be back at Westminster.

A woman who had stood for an hour

waiting for him in Rathfriland,

said: "I have just come to see him speak for the last time. It's something I want to be able to tell my children". Such expressions of defeatism have never crossed Mr Powell's lips though he would be less than human if he thought he had not crossed his mind.



Mr Powell canvassing in Dundrum, co Down, while Mr Christopher Gibbons, right, goes in search of a Labour supporter in Sutton Coldfield

Richard Ford

Where optimism is a Labour rally

With just 24 hours left to win over the hearts and minds of voters in Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, the safest Conservative seat in Britain, the Labour candidate, Mr Christopher Gibbons, a barrister, stuck to his well-tried campaign programme yesterday morning and

prosecuted shoplifters and careless motorists in a nearby magistrates' court.

It is not that Mr Gibbons has given up any hope of victory.

Such wild thoughts never entered his mind in the first place.

"You have to take a realistic view of the matter. You are probably not going to win and the next thing that follows is that you are going to come third."

Sutton Coldfield, the least working-class constituency outside London, is to the Tories

what Rhondda is to Labour - impregnable. Mr Norman Fowler, its fortunate MP since 1974, attracted almost 70 per cent of the votes cast in 1979 and the chance of Mr Gibbons ending the local hegemony today is as likely as Scrambling Lord Stutch defeating Mrs Thatcher in Finchley.

And so the former Birmingham city councillor has spent most mornings during the campaign prosecuting for the local police before daring to venture out and receive his daily ration of abuse and mockery from Sutton Coldfield's massed true-blue ranks.

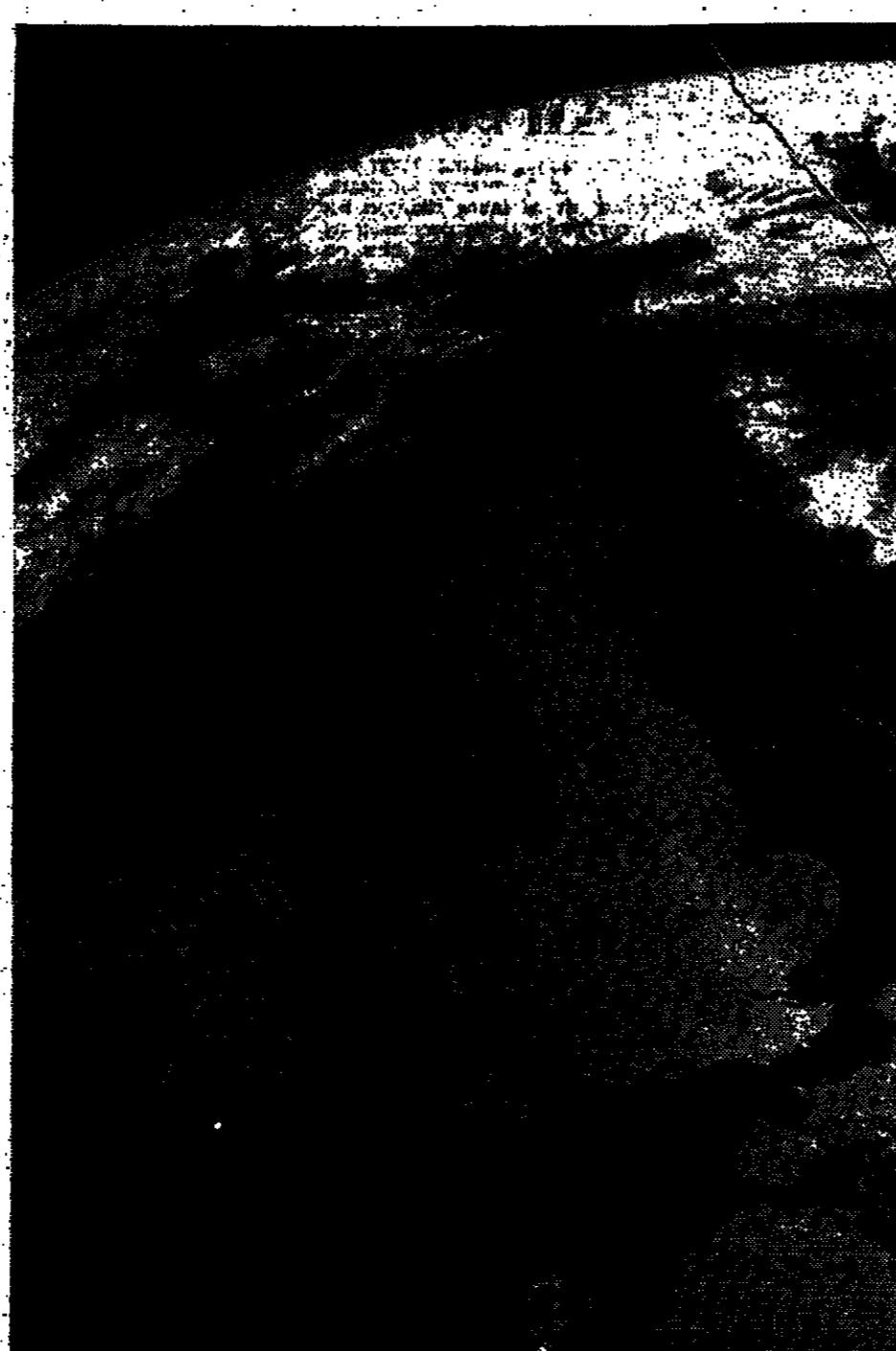
Flying the Labour flag in such a Tory bastion calls for novel campaign and organizational tactics. His first step was to pay a £5 insurance premium to cover himself against the near certainty of losing his £150 election deposit.

Having borrowed a motor-cycle from the Triumph Meriden Cooperative, and proudly declaring himself to be the only motor-cycling Labour candidate in the country, Mr Gibbons and a BBC TV crew went in search of a voter. If the idea had not been eventually scrapped, they would probably still be continuing the search.

Despite the hopelessness of his cause, the personal knocks and vilification, Mr Gibbons confesses to having enjoyed the contest and looks forward to a future parliamentary battle. Will it be in Sutton Coldfield again? "Nobody is ever asked to run here twice."

Richard Evans

HOW GREAT WILL BRITAIN BE TOMORROW?



'Abrasive' Toryism attacked by Steel

By Barbara Day

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party: "At the moment it looks as though there is going to be a Conservative victory. All the polls indicate that. Therefore the question is, how substantial is the victory going to be, and what controlling interest is the Alliance going to be able to have on the Government."

"I think a lot of Conservative voters who believe in the old one-nation style of Conservatism are going to draw back from giving an endorsement to the new, abrasive and harsh Toryism that we see today and I think they will switch to the Alliance."

"I think that it would be a disaster if we had a major landslide for the Conservative Party because I think that the divisions in our society will increase over the next four or five years and that cannot be healthy for the country." (ITN, News at One.)

Mr Michael Foot, leader of the Labour Party: "I believe Labour can win. I believe we are going to fight very hard tomorrow. I have seen the marginal constituencies where we are fighting and that is where the timing is going to be decided and I believe that the individual evidence that we have justifies this. I think the SDP or the Alliance, or whatever they call themselves, are going to be wiped out as an effective force

BROADCASTING

When the votes come in Back page

in the next Parliament and the only way, therefore, the Thatcher Government can be defeated is through the Labour Party." (ITN, News at One.)

Mrs Margaret Thatcher: "The Conservative Party consists of people who come from all walks of life and the policy is for people in all walks of life. The really divisive policies are those of the Labour Party, who start to talk about class war, class struggle, all the old Marxist language. That is outdated. It is not suitable for Britain. I thought in the first Parliament which I came into in Harold Macmillan's time we had got rid of all that stuff. It is ridiculous. It belongs to a different age. They brought it back and it is they who deliberately set out to be divisive. We are British and I do not divide between one group and another."

"I have not used power autocratically in any way, nor should I use it autocratically. I am a devout believer in democracy and the ballot box and this is the only authority that any government has - the authority given to it by the people." (ITN News at One.)

Early pointers to result

Within seconds of the polling booths closing at 10pm tonight, both BBC and ITN will flash an early prediction of the general election result to millions of television viewers.

Their forecasts will be based on thousands of interviews carried out during the day with electors as they leave the polls in specially chosen constituencies.

ITN is interviewing 10,000 people spread over the 110 most marginal seats in addition to further estimated 4,000 voters in 40 more seats, who form a typical cross-section of the population. The same formula employed in

TV and radio broadcasts

TODAY: 10.45am-11am, Election: BBC 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621,

African unity at stake

Polisario Front agrees pullout to prevent OAU summit collapse

Addis Abeba (Reuters, AFP, AP) — The Polisario Front yesterday agreed to pull out of the nineteenth summit of the organization of African unity (OAU), clearing the way for an end to the crisis which has threatened the organization's existence.

Mr Ibrahim Hakim, Foreign Minister of the Polisario's Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), said his movement had agreed to the concession for the sake of African unity.

States opposed to Polisario participation in the summit had threatened to boycott the meeting in protest at its presence.

Mr Hakim made his announcement as heads of state Regan arriving for the summit, which at one stage looked as if it might turn into a gathering of only those states which back the SADR.

Delegates said it was almost certain the concession would make it possible for the 51-member organization to raise a quorum of 34 member states.

Gaddafi roadshow dazzles Addis

Addis Abeba (NYT) — Under the walls of Africa Hall, where the organization of African Unity remained locked in possibly terminal dispute, there is a modest side-show for those not privy to the deliberations within.

It is the travelling road show that surrounds Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan Leader, making him a flamboyant diversion from more staid, African styles.

He arrived here unexpectedly, on Sunday, with an entourage of 150 in three aircraft. That perplexed even President Omar Bongo of Gabon who had flown in on board a personalized DCB aircraft.

The Libyan leader is reported

to be staying, not with other heads of state in a hotel, but in a private villa whence he departs for his public appearances.

A maroon, stretched Mercedes packed with bodyguards will scratch to a halt outside the blue-carpeted steps of Africa Hall, where the organization has been deadlocked by a division that threatens its survival over the Polisario guerrillas who Colonel Gaddafi, among others supports.

The Cameroun focus their lenses on the Mercedes, but Colonel Gaddafi steps out of a more modest BMW car, a ploy presumably devised to foil assassins at the hall. The Libyan team behave as if they own the place. After a meeting on Tuesday, for instance, heads of

Elton John takes home old China

From David Bonavia
Peking

for the Evangelical Church newspaper the importance of the Nato twin-track decision as a means of reaching a balanced reduction of arms in Europe.

Herr Wolfgang Rumpf, a Free Democratic MP also called on Christians of all denominations not to dissipate their energies in demonstrations against what he called the peace policies of the Government.

The two-yearly predominantly lay gathering has attracted some 112,000 participants, of whom two thirds are under 25, a clear indication of the important role the church is now playing in young people's views on the peace question. Many will be urging the influential church to take a decisive stand against the deployment of new NATO missiles in West Germany.

In an evident attempt to stop the adoption of a decision politically embarrassing to his Government, Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday reaffirmed in a special article

that "Return to Life" had been turned into a demonstration

of the peace policies of the Government.

Before the opening there was fierce dispute over the intention by some 100 peace groups to wear purple scarves, a symbol of the peace movement, bearing the slogan "Now is the time for an unequivocal 'no' to all weapons of mass destruction" at all meetings including the closing church services. Two bishops said they would not attend in protest, saying that the convention held under the motto of "Return to Life" had been turned into a demonstration

of the peace policies of the Government.

Last night, Watford trounced the Chinese national team 5-0, after winning previous matches in Shanghai and Peking.

Mr John gave an impromptu concert last night at the luxury hotel where the club were staying in the Western Hills, near Peking.

British Embassy officials said arrangements were being made to bring the group from Kassala to Khartoum by lorry or aircraft and then fly them to London.

Freed relief team gets near Sudan

Khartum (Reuters) — A team of foreign relief workers recently freed after being kidnapped by guerrillas in Ethiopia have crossed a flood-swollen river on their journey back to freedom and are close to Sudan, reports said here yesterday.

A spokesman for the Tigre People's Liberation Front told reporters that the workers had reached a point some 30 miles east of Kassala in eastern Sudan after crossing the Upper Gash river in Eritrea.

"We are happy their suffering, due to circumstances beyond our control, has now ended," Gerbu Tewelde, the spokesman said.

The team of four Britons, two Irish, two Italians and one American were abducted on April 21 and freed last week.

Mr Tewelde said they were escorted on their journey by 10 guerrillas of the SPLF which seeks Tigre's independence from Ethiopia. It was now up to the Sudanese authorities to allow the group into Sudan, he added.

We have kept our word to free the workers, they are all in good shape despite bad weather conditions.

British Embassy officials said arrangements were being made to bring the group from Kassala to Khartoum by lorry or aircraft and then fly them to London.

A spokesman for the South

Mrs Gandhi 'a soul in agony'

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, left, with Mrs Milka Planinc, President of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council, after the Indian leader's arrival in Belgrade yesterday for a 48-hour official visit to Yugoslavia.

Mrs Gandhi, who is on the first leg of a European tour that will take her to Finland, Denmark, Norway and Australia, is the current President of the non-aligned movement. She later addressed the sixth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) which opened in Belgrade on Monday, AFP and AP report.

In her speech she made a passionate plea for peace, calling for "non-violence" in today's world dominated by

"new methods and forms of colonialism."

"I am a soul in agony," she told delegates. "As one who feels passionately about freedom, I cannot but be alarmed at the continuing pushing domination" of Third World countries by powers she did not identify.

UNCTAD optimism, page 21

ANC guerrilla in last-minute appeal for stay of execution

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The South African Government, unmoved by a flood of eleven-hour appeals for clemency from all over the world, yesterday said that the hanging of three African National Congress guerrillas would take place as planned at dawn today.

However, lawyers representing Mr Marcus Motaung, one of the condemned men, made a final attempt late yesterday to obtain a stay of execution, with an application to the Pretoria Supreme Court. If the application succeeded it would probably mean a reprieve for the other two.

The three men had earlier refused to make such an application, saying they had prepared themselves for death. But Mr Motaung changed his mind after being persuaded by relatives who visited him on "death row" yesterday morning.

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British Embassy officials said arrangements were being made to bring the group from Kassala to Khartoum by lorry or aircraft and then fly them to London.

A spokesman for the South

African Mission at the United Nations was quoted as branding the Security Council resolution a gross interference in South Africa's affairs, which would be treated with the contempt it deserved.

More than 50 US senators and congressmen, including three Democratic presidential candidates, Mr Walter Mondale, Mr Gary Hart and Mr Alan Cranston, also sent cables to Mr Botha.

In another move, the Seychelles Government offered on Tuesday to set free four condemned mercenaries and two others serving long-term prison sentences, among them three Britons, if the three ANC members were reprieved.

Reports in the South African press claimed that the last-minute appeals, which included a joint déclaration by the 10 members of the EEC and a resolution passed unanimously by the United Nations Security Council late of Tuesday, were discussed yesterday by the Executive Council — the Cabinet sitting with the State President as chairman.

However, a spokesman for the council told *The Times*: "Representations of this nature and similar content have already been considered by the executive council, and a final decision has been taken."

The first test-tube triplets born

Adelaide (Reuters) — An Australian woman gave birth to the world's first test-tube triplets yesterday, two girls and a boy delivered a month premature by Caesarean section.

A spokesman for Adelaide's Flinders medical centre said mother and babies were in good health and progressing well. The mother was not identified nor the weight of the triplets given.

The test-tube baby technique is used mainly on women who cannot conceive normally due to blocked fallopian tubes. Her eggs are surgically removed, fertilized in a test tube by the husband's sperm, and replaced in the woman.

Mercy mission man due back

Dr Andrew Doig, the Church of Scotland emissary sent to Malawi to plead for mercy for Mr Orton Chirwa, the country's former Justice Minister, and his wife, is expected back in Britain today.

The Chirwas, sentenced to death for treason last month, were due to hang today, but it is understood they are now appealing for clemency.

Volga disaster toll put at 240

Moscow (AP) — The death toll from Sunday's Volga river cruise ship disaster was at least 240, unofficial Soviet sources reported. Four railway carriages had plunged from the bridge hit by the ship.

No official death toll has yet been issued but the sources said they got their information from friends from Ulyanovsk who are visiting Moscow.

Andropov doubt

Bonn (Reuters) — The West German Government said yesterday it had no evidence that Mr Yuri Andropov, the Soviet leader, was seriously ill, and that the planned visit by Chancellor Helmut Kohl to Moscow on July 4 would go ahead.

Hawke in Paris

Paris (AP) — Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, arrived in Paris yesterday for a round of talks with French leaders that is expected to focus on Australia's opposition to France's nuclear weapons testing in the South Pacific.

Claim denied

Washington — The Reagan Administration was branded as "patently false" the contention of an anti-Zionist committee in Moscow that the majority of Jews who desired to emigrate from the Soviet Union had already left.

Pilots eject

The Hague (Reuters) — A USAF Phantom reconnaissance aircraft based in England crashed at Oudeschip, northeast of Groningen, yesterday but the two pilots ejected safely, the Dutch Defence Ministry said.

Flagged down

Harare (Reuters) — An African businessman running a curio shop in Bulawayo has been arrested for the possession of flags and army insignia of the former Rhodesia. Their sale or display was banned in 1981.

Golfer's suit

New York (AP) — Severino Ballesteros, the Spanish golfer, has filed a suit for unspecified damages against the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., charging it used his picture in advertisements without permission or payment.

Out of tune

Frankfurt (AP) — An embittered USAF band apologized to the Yugoslav national football team after playing the pre-war national anthem, holding up play in the match against West Germany for 30 minutes while a search was made for the proper music.

Seven killed

Johannesburg (AP) — Seven people leaving a wedding died when their twin-engine private aircraft crashed after take-off from Cape Town.

Exiles return

Harare (Reuters) — Botswana has sent back about 70 Zimbabwean exiles who illegally fled across the border from the troubled province of Matabeleland.

Own goal

Stockholm (AP) — A Swedish navy mineslayer firing an anti-aircraft gun scored a direct hit on its own bridge during an exercise in waters south of here. A naval spokesman said. No one was hurt.

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individual child in one of the world's poorest communities.

Every single penny from your sponsorship goes overseas to benefit the child you are sponsoring. And you get regular news on the child's progress.

Decide to change one child's world - post this coupon today.



Bomb damage: Wreckage of the Israeli armoured vehicle in a Beirut street, with the bodies of two soldiers still inside.

According to eye-witnesses, the two soldiers on the vehicle were torn in half by the explosion. A Lebanese policeman was also thought to have been killed in the street beside the crippled vehicle.

In dark glasses and with an automatic rifle over his shoulder, he spent up to two hours talking to his fellow

Israeli soldiers carrying rifles and machine-guns, drove up and down the old Sidon road.

Officers of the multinational force in Beirut, which arrived to guard the approach roads to Galerie Semana, immediately

after the bomb went off, believed that the guerrillas who are ambushing the Israelis every day are mainly Lebanese, and most of them Shia Muslims.

Lebanese troops questioned

Liberation Organization news agency, Wafa, claimed in Cyprus that the bomb had been the work of the "Lebanese National Resistance Front", the formulaic expression that the PLO now uses in every advertisement to attack on the Israelis in Lebanon.

Officers of the multinational force in Beirut, which arrived to guard the approach roads to Galerie Semana, immediately

after the bomb went off, believed that the guerrillas who are ambushing the Israelis every day are mainly Lebanese, and most of them Shia Muslims.

There is no doubt that the soul searching will continue. Next Monday the Knesset is due to debate two opposition motions calling for a full judicial inquiry into the Government's conduct of the war.

Yesterday, by a majority of 55 to 47 with two abstentions the Government comfortably defeated a call by the main Labour opposition for a unilateral withdrawal of all Israeli troops from Lebanon. The victory was despite the fact that two Likud members, Mr Yitzhak Rabin and Mr Dror Ziv, both voted in favour of the pull-out.

Mr Rabin, the former Energy Minister who resigned

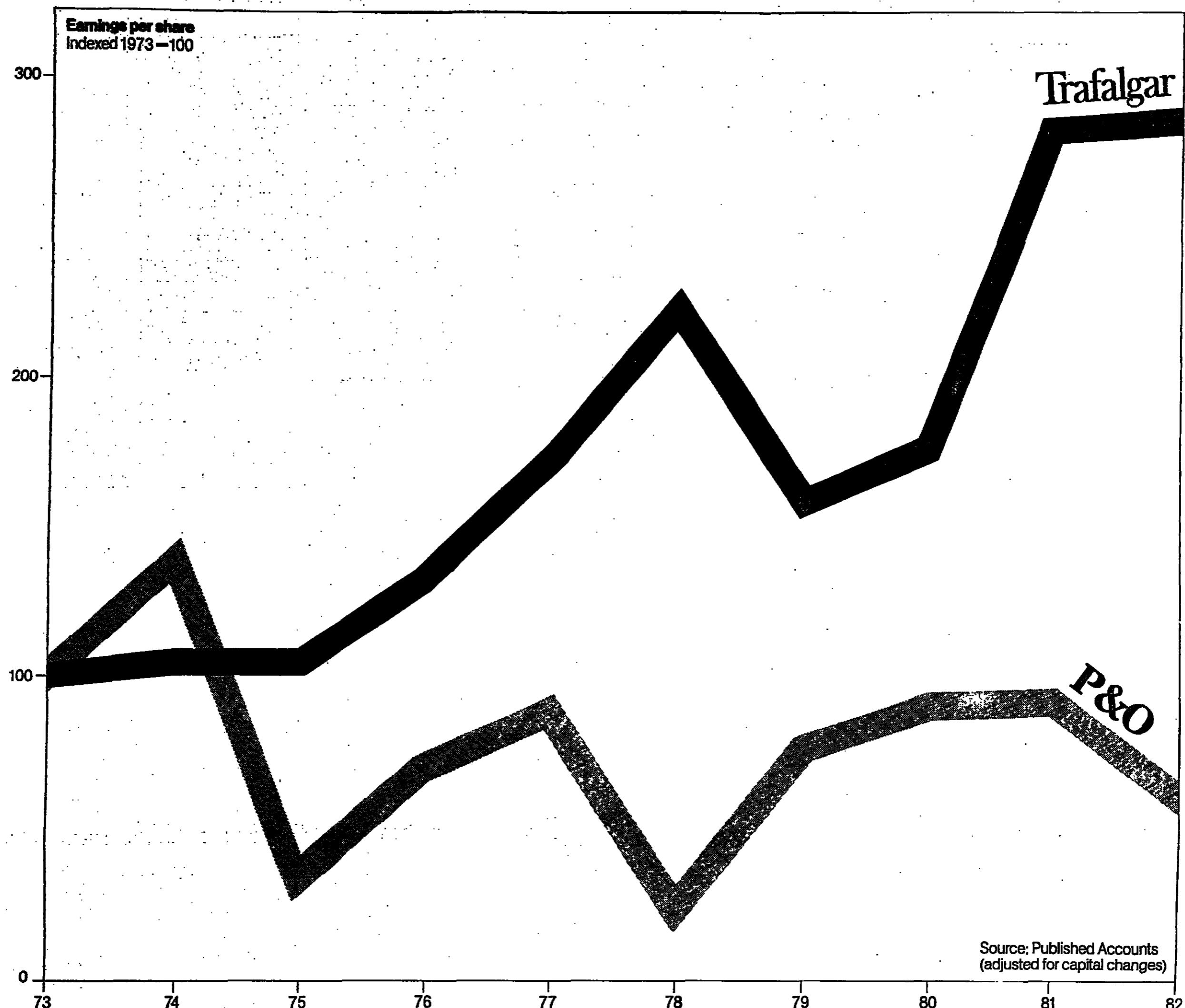
his Cabinet post in protest against the handing of the war

has figured prominently in the bitter internal debate on whether the ministers were properly informed about events in Lebanon by Mr Ariel Sharon, Defence Minister at the time.

A number of senior officers, including Major General Amnon Drori, commander of the Northern Command, have alleged in anniversary interviews that Israel's military performances would have been improved had the goals of the war been explained more clearly.

It has also been disclosed in the past few days that the late Moshe Dayan told a meeting of his disbanded Telam Party in 1981: "The Israeli public does not want war in Lebanon. Such a war would damage national unity."

This advertisement is published by Kekewich, Benson Limited on behalf of Trafalgar House Public Limited Company.

TO P&O STOCKHOLDERS.

A COUPLE OF LINES YOU MAY LIKE TO PURSUE AT P&O'S A.G.M. TODAY.

Since P&O's response to Trafalgar's bid has been so emotional, try subjecting its Board to a line of questioning that's rather more factual:

The following questions, for instance:

1. Why are P&O's profits and earnings per share lower now than they were ten years ago, when Trafalgar's profits have more than trebled in the same period?
2. What profit is P&O forecasting for 1983? Trafalgar has already predicted a record year.
3. Why has P&O's average return on

shareholders' funds been under 9% for the last ten years when Trafalgar's has been over 30%?

4. Why has P&O found it necessary to dip into its reserves to pay dividends for three years out of the last ten, when Trafalgar has always paid dividends out of current profits?
5. Why should I continue to be a shareholder in a company whose management has consistently produced nothing but decline and disappointment - when I have the opportunity to join up with another

British company whose management has produced such impressive growth in the same fields?

6. Finally, are P&O's emotive efforts to have Trafalgar's bid referred to the Monopolies Commission really in my best interests? Should I not have the right to decide on the bid's merits myself?

If this line of questioning produces nothing more concrete than a few optimistic noises about the future, we would suggest that you look again at the two lines in the graph and draw your own conclusions.

IF YOU CARE ABOUT P&O, ACCEPT THE TRAFALGAR OFFER.

The first
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Two world beaters from Nissan.

Only a company as forward-looking as Nissan could launch two technically advanced new models on the same day.

The Micra – a compact 1 litre car with unbeatable economy. And the Prairie – a unique

multi-purpose vehicle with enormous carrying capacity.

Both are built to Nissan's world-beating standards of quality and reliability. Both give you exceptional value for money.



New Micra. The most economical car you can buy - 67.3mpg!

No other car will take you 67.3 miles on a single gallon of petrol.

And no other car produces so much power from a 1.0 litre engine.

So you get outstanding performance with exceptional economy.

The new Nissan Micra also offers you the tightest turning circle of any car in its class, to make it the ideal car about town – easy to park, light to handle, and with superb all-round visibility.

Its high level of trim includes standard equipment others treat as extras. Digital quartz clock, LW/MW radio, halogen headlamps, heated rear window with wash-wipe, and much more are all included in the price.

The Micra is fractionally longer than other cars in its class, so you'll be impressed by its interior space – and by its space for luggage.

And its quiet, comfy interior makes it a clever choice for really long journeys too.

The Micra is a world beating new car from Nissan, with front wheel drive, a new lightweight overhead camshaft engine, economy-ratio gearbox and wind cheating aerodynamic body.

There are three models to choose from – 4-speed DX, 5-speed GL and GL automatic.

If you do nothing else today, test drive the new Micra! It's the most economical car you can buy.



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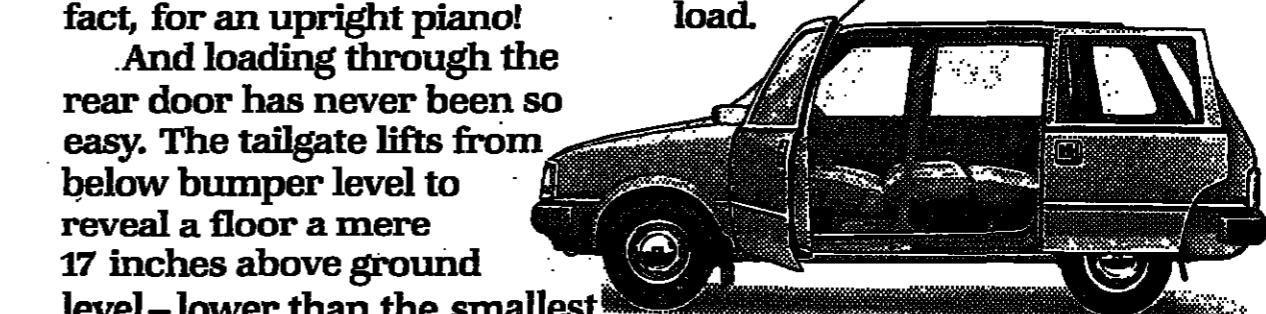
New Prairie. The world's most versatile car!

There's no car in the world quite like the Prairie.

It's perfect for family use, perfect for leisure and ideal for business.

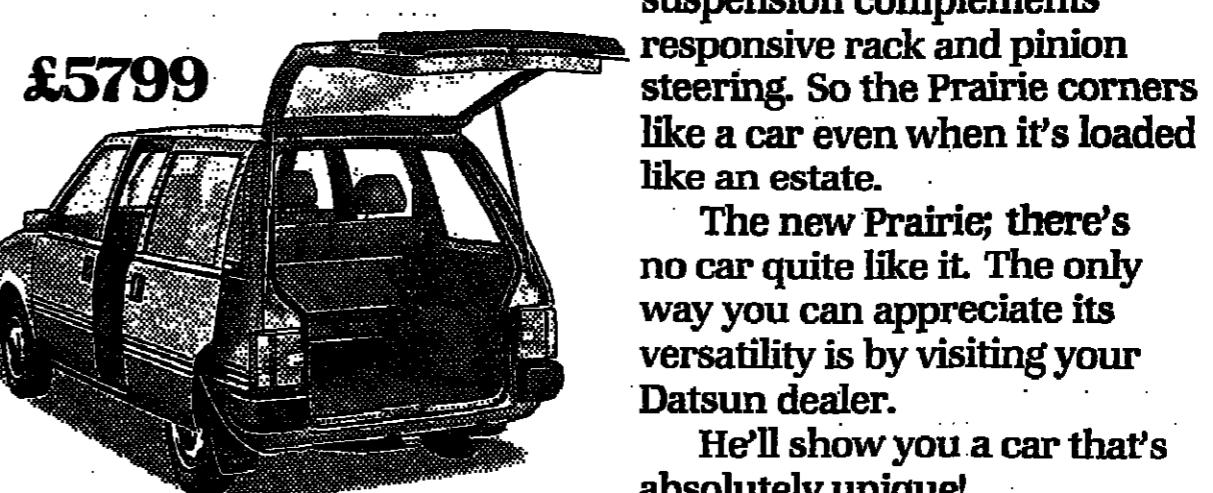
The Prairie has a unique pillarless design and sliding rear doors to give unobstructed access to the interior – perfect for loading with people or goods. And inside there's all the room in the world. Enough, in fact, for an upright piano!

And loading through the rear door has never been so easy. The tailgate lifts from below bumper level to reveal a floor a mere 17 inches above ground level – lower than the smallest estate car on the market.



The Prairie's spacious interior is luxuriously equipped, Datsun style. Both front and rear seats recline (and can be folded down) to make a comfortable double bed – perfect for holiday touring.

Under the bonnet a powerful 1.5 litre engine is linked to a five speed gearbox gearing that gives punchy acceleration, whatever the load.



Fully independent suspension complements responsive rack and pinion steering. So the Prairie corners like a car even when it's loaded like an estate.

The new Prairie; there's no car quite like it. The only way you can appreciate its versatility is by visiting your Datsun dealer.

He'll show you a car that's absolutely unique!

The world's most innovative car company

NISSAN DATSUN

Government Fuel Consumption Tests – mpg (litres/100kms). Micra GL Constant 56 mph (90km/h) 67.3 (4.2). Town Driving Cycle 47.9 (5.9) Constant 75 mph (120km/h) 46.3 (6.1). Datsun UK Limited, Datsun House, New Road, Worthing, Sussex. Tel: Worthing (0903) 68581. Datsun price includes car tax, VAT, seat belts, two door mirrors, rear fog lamp etc. (Inland delivery, number plates and road fund licence extra).

US-Nicaragua tension grows

From Moisés Ali
Washington

Nicaragua's six consulates in the United States closed down yesterday and their 21 officials began leaving for home after the Reagan Administration's swift retaliation for the expulsion on Monday of three American diplomats from Nicaragua.

The heads of the consulates in New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans and Houston were ordered by the State Department on Tuesday to close their offices and leave the country within 24 hours. The remainder of their staff and dependents have been told to leave by tomorrow.

The State Department said that an important consideration behind its action was "The Nicaraguan Government's use of its consulates for intelligence operations". Officials declined to give any details, and categorically rejected Nicaraguan charges that the expelled Americans had been involved in subversive activities.

Tension between the Administration and the Sandinista Government has reached an unprecedented pitch, but diplomatic relations have not been broken off.

President Reagan has repeatedly accused Managua which is supported by Cuba and the Soviet Union, of giving aid to left-wing guerrillas in El Salvador. The Administration is giving economic and military aid to the Salvadorean Government.

On Tuesday the House foreign affairs committee approved a Bill to deny the President funds for covert operations in Nicaragua. Instead, the Bill would authorize the Administration to spend \$80m over two years to help friendly Central American nations to halt arms supplies to the Salvadorean guerrillas.

The committee's recommenda-



Arrival: Miss Linda Pfeifer, Miss Ermila Rodriguez and Mr David Noble Greig, the three US diplomats expelled from Nicaragua, at Miami airport.

dation, adopted by 20 votes to 14, is, however, unlikely to be passed by the full Congress. It will now go to the Democrat-dominated House of Representatives, where Republicans and some Democrats will seek a compromise. Even if it passed the House, the Bill would stand little chance in the Republican-controlled Senate.

A State Department spokesman said: "We have stated before our basic opposition to any legislation which would constrain the executive's policy tools to deal with the extremely complex situation in Central America."

Many Democrats in Congress

have alleged that the Administration is assisting Nicaraguan rebels to overthrow the Government, in violation of a congressional ban on the use of intelligence funds for such purposes.

Washington has repeatedly denied this, maintaining that its objective is merely to help stop arms shipments to the Salvadorean guerrillas.

The Senate intelligence committee recently approved a Bill that would allow the covert counter-revolutionary groups backed by the Army and Government of Honduras".

Senor Ortega's comments were made after the signing of an agreement on economic and scientific cooperation between Cuba and Nicaragua.



Departure: Señor Manuel Cordero, Nicaraguan Charge of Affairs in Washington, announcing the US retaliation.

● **El Salvador trial:** The Reagan Administration has decided to send a special representative to El Salvador to try to make sure that the courts conduct a thorough trial of Salvadorean soldiers accused of murdering four American missionaries in 1980. NYT reports.

The case has been a focus of continuing dispute in the United States because little progress has been made in Salvadorean courts since the National Guardsmen were charged with the murder in November 1982.

● **MANAGUA:** Senor Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan junta, said that the expulsion of the Nicaraguan diplomats showed "irresponsibility and strengthens the policy of confrontation and the war in Central America". AP reports.

The case has been a focus of continuing dispute in the United States because little progress has been made in Salvadorean courts since the National Guardsmen were charged with the murder in November 1982.

Pilot tells of ordeal Broken radio forced Harrier into emergency landing

From Michael Wigg, Madrid

The pilot of the Royal Navy Sea Harrier which landed in high seas off the Spanish cargo vessel in the Atlantic said he was forced to do so because of "navigation problems".

Sub-Lieutenant Ian Watson, speaking by radio telephone from the Alraigo which is expected in Santa Cruz de Tenerife, in the Canaries, this morning said: "There were no mechanical problems with the Harrier, but I realized I had navigational problems when I discovered the main radio was no longer working."

With fuel for only 15 minutes flying and having lost contact with the aircraft carrier Illustrious while on a sea mission the 25-year-old pilot then used his radar and managed to locate the Spanish 3,800 tonnes dead-weight cargo vessel as it was some 120 nautical miles from the Portuguese coast sailing south-westwards.

Sub-Lieutenant Watson circled the Alraigo and then came down hovering over the cargo of 48 by 2ft containers all stored in a 90ft area between the ship's bridge and its derrick.

"All the crew looked very concerned and they had the lifeboats out and the fire hoses at the ready," Sub-Lieutenant Watson went on, explaining

that at the Alraigo lurched in high seas his Harrier nearly slipped off the containers ending with its fuselage tipped nose upwards at an angle of 10 degrees.

After getting over the shock the crew had been "very good" Sub-Lieutenant Watson from the Vooivoo base. The Alraigo is expected to dock in Santa Cruz between 10 and 11 am local time today and a spokesman for the Grecia Minasur Line, owners of the Alraigo, said yesterday that it was expected the vessel's own derrick would lift the Harrier.

Señor Juan Echeverría, head of the line, said a salvage claim on the Harrier had already put into the lawyer's hands.

The Spanish Foreign Ministry privately said the whole incident would be treated as a humanitarian matter - like the forced landing of any other aircraft.

The Spanish press has generally treated the incident in a light-hearted way but has emphasised the remarks of the Alraigo's skipper, Captain Aitor Suso, a 26-year-old Basque, who spoke of his crew's fears when one of the Harrier's bombs slipped from its emplacement.

"All the crew looked very concerned and they had the lifeboats out and the fire hoses at the ready," Sub-Lieutenant Watson went on, explaining

Defence Ministry faces £400,000 bill

By John Lawless

The Ministry of Defence is likely to face a bill for about £400,000 as a result of the Harrier's forced landing.

Talks were being held between London and Madrid yesterday to determine what compensation the vessel's owners should pay for the damage caused by the Harrier.

The only comparable case

involving a container ship was the Alraigo.

"It may have been more modest," said a spokesman, "but it was a salvage operation, so the Spanish authorities would have built up a bill for the removal of the wreckage."

The only comparable case

involving a container

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It was agreed that the

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July 1980

THE TIMES

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standard. Pillows and headrests are covered in linen, not paper.

As soon as you take your seat in Super Executive, with its décor in restful tones of brown, we think you'll agree it's a world apart from other Business Class cabins.

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Damages for negligent house valuation

London and South of England Building Society v Stone
Before Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice O'Connor and Sir Denis Buckley. (Judgment delivered May 27)

Where a surveyor, in breach of his duty to value a property mortgaged to a building society, carelessly and unskillfully put upon the property a false value and the building society advanced money on the false valuation, the true measure of damages for the breach was the difference between the sum the building society advanced on the false valuation and the sum the building society would have advanced on the true valuation which a careful and skillful surveyor would have put upon the property.

But that difference might not always be the true measure of the actual loss which might be increased by expenses and reduced by receipts. It was not incumbent upon the building society to enforce the personal covenant for repayment against the borrower in mitigation of the surveyor's damages.

The Court of Appeal, giving a reserved judgment allowed by majority (Sir Denis Buckley dissenting) an appeal by the London and South of England Building Society (formerly known as the South of England Building Society) from an order of Mr Justice Russell on November 13, 1981, who held that judgment against the defendant surveyor, Mr Barry Stone, should be entered for the building society for £12,568 being £9,133 damages plus agreed interest.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted.

In March 1976 Mr Robinson and his fiancee, Mrs Hurd, were negotiating for the purchase of a semi-detached house at Land End in Corsham, Wiltshire. They approached the building society for a mortgage to finance the purchase.

The society instructed Mr Stone who was a qualified surveyor and valued to value the property. The society had a printed form which went to Mr Stone for him to complete but in part it had already been filled in by the society and indicated that the amount of advance required was £21,800 repayable over 25 years; and that the agreed purchase price was £14,850.

Mr Stone inspected the property and made his report to the society. He gave the house a clean bill of health. He certified that he had valued the property, and prepared his report in accordance with the provisions of section 25 of the Building Societies Act 1962. He certified that the property as a suitable security for the advance and term requested.

But due to the society's in-house rules they only advanced £11,800. By a legal charge dated September 23, 1976, the borrowers charged the house to the society.

The borrowers covenanted, *inter alia*, to pay monthly instalments of specified sums, until the principle sum and any further advances and all other moneys payable by the borrowers were paid to keep any buildings on the property in good and tenable repair, to pay the subscription of the society, and to repay with usual interest all money

paid by the society in completing, repairing, amending, altering, or proving or insuring the property or in making any payments for outgoings in relation thereto or for the protection or improvement.

The borrowers moved into their new home but soon cracks appeared and the doors ceased to fit, the surety tales that the property was subject to subsidence. The borrowers became alarmed, and called in consulting engineers who reported in September 1977 that the house was built on the site of an old quarry in the hillside which had been indiscriminately filled, that not only was the whole hillside gradually moving downward, but the fill in the quarry was sliding taking the foundations of the house with it. They recommended under-

SIR DENYS BUCKLEY, dissenting, said that the obligations of the borrowers under their personal covenants remained intact unaffected by Mr Stone's negligence. Indeed, they were duly performed down to the time when the loan was paid off.

What impact, if any, did the continued subsidence of the borrowers' obligations under their covenants have on the measure of the surveyor's loss?

In the instant case the borrowers were unable to provide additional payments, the society was morally responsible for the loss of the borrowers' home and thus enforcement of the covenant to pay to would injure their public relations. Accordingly, Mr Stone had not proved that the society's refusal to enforce the covenant was unreasonable.

LORD JUSTICE O'CONNOR

said that applying the reasoning in *Baxter v Gapp & Co Ltd* (1939) 2 KB 271 to the facts of the present case the actual loss to the building society was £29,000. In June 1979 the society decided not to ask the borrowers to make up any deficiency as a gesture of goodwill on the part of the society for what had been a most difficult and frightening experience for the borrowers but to pursue their remedy against Mr Stone.

Mr Patrick Twiss for the building society; Mr John Slater for Mr. Stone.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHENSON

said that the only question raised by the appeal and cross-appeal was whether the judge should have discounted the £1,800 which the society advanced on the worthless property by £3,000 or any sum for the borrowers' obligation to repay it with interest under their personal covenant.

What was contended for Mr Stone was that the building society ought to have done something and had not done so, they could have investigated the damage flowing from the worthlessness of the security. They should have had recourse to another item of security than the mortgaged property, but surely that was a security in a different sense not by itself securing the loan, namely the borrowers' contractual obligation under the covenant in the deed.

The truth was that however one looked at the case the society had lost the whole of their advance at the very least. That loss had been caused by the negligence of Mr Stone. There was no justification for the suggestion that the society were under a duty to Mr. Stone to mitigate that loss by trying to extract money from the borrower.

The appeal ought to be allowed and a judgment entered for the

Solicitors Lawrence Messer & Co, Barlow Lyde & Gilbert.

'Cocaine' includes any of its derivatives

Regina v Greensmith (Tony)

The word "cocaine" as used in Schedule 2 to the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 was a generic word which included both the direct extracts of the coca leaf and whatever resulted from a chemical transformation of such extracts.

Lord Justice Lawton, sitting in the Court of Appeal (Grimm Division) on May 27 with Mr Justice Croom-Jones and Mr Justice Stocker, so held, dismissing an appeal by Mr Tony Greensmith against his conviction for unlawfully possessing cocaine with intent to supply it to another.

HIS LORDSHIP said that it had been contended that Schedule 2 of the 1971 Act distinguished between

the "natural" cocaine and its stereo-isomeric forms, its esters and salts, to the extent that it was necessary for the prosecution to prove in this case that the substance possessed and being covenanted and one of its stereo-isomers, esters or salts.

(1) A plaintiff need not take the risk of starting an uncertain litigation against a third party; see *Pilkington v Wood* ([1953] Ch 770). That included litigation which might be reasonably certain to result in judgment for the plaintiff but there was no certainty that the judgment would be satisfied.

(2) A plaintiff need not take steps to recover compensation for his loss from parties who, in addition to the defendant, were liable to him; see *Steamship Enterprises of Panama Ltd v Liverpool (Owners) Limited* (No 2) ([1963] P 64).

It was a difficult point of construction, but when seen in the context of sections 2(2) and 3(3) and Part 4 of Schedule 2 to the 1971 Act, it was clear that cocaine was a substance which had a number of forms and derivatives, all of which were "cocaine" for the purpose of the Act. It was not therefore necessary for the prosecution to prove more than that the substance possessed by the defendant had been cocaine in one or other of its forms or derivatives.

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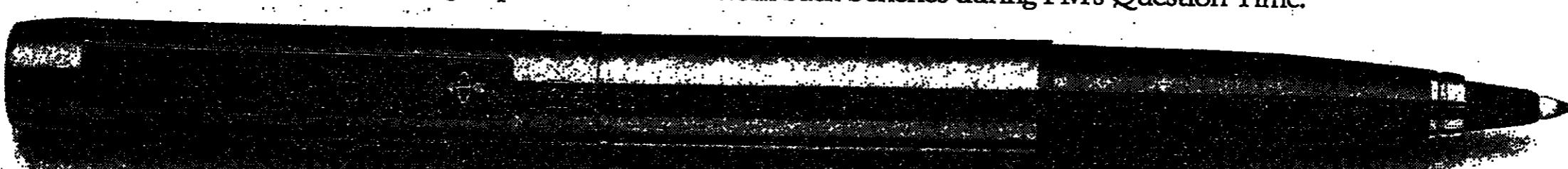
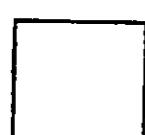
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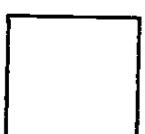
How to make your mark in politics.



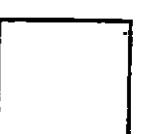
The Parker International Rolled Gold Pen. £24.
Creates dazzling impression if waved from back-benches during PM's Question Time.



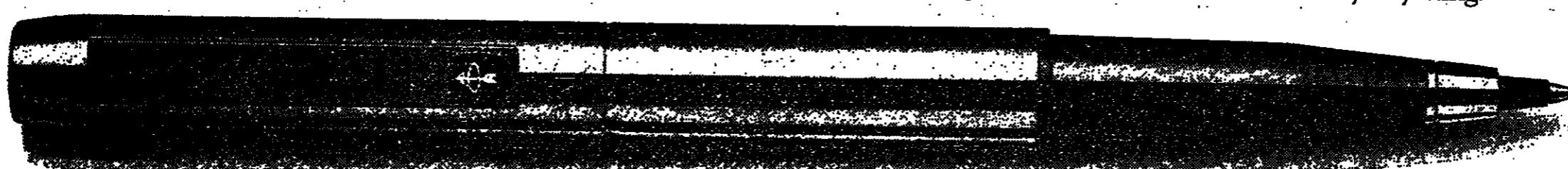
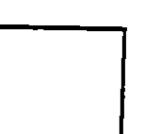
The Parker 25 Fibre Tip. £5.95.
Unlike new Members, will not dry up in mid-flow. Comes with red or blue, but unfortunately not orange, refill.



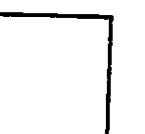
The Parker Arrow Matt Black Pencil. £12.50.
The spokesman's dream: records strong, clear statements which can later discreetly be erased.



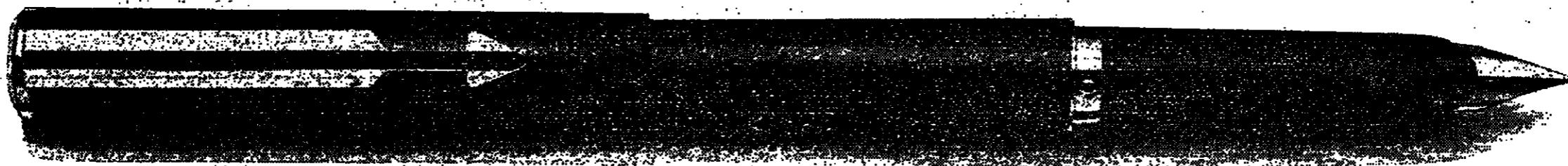
The Parker T-Ball Special. £2.25.
Useful for jotting ideas, insults, categorical denials etc, on cuff during debates. Will write on virtually anything.



The Parker 25 Roller Ball. £5.95.
effortlessly from its tip. Excellent for working on ad libs and party political broadcasts.



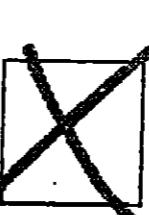
The Parker RB1 Roller Ball. £2.50.
Economy model of above. Recommended for use by Chancellor when next drafting Budget.



The Parker Arrow Matt Black Fountain-Pen. £20.
Works equally well on White or Green Papers. Guaranteed never to blot on a promising career.



May we suggest you vote Parker on your way to the Polling Station today?
Making your mark with anything less is tantamount to spoiling the ballot-paper.

PARKER  

SPECTRUM

Up the poll without a vote



MODERN TIMES

A sideways look at the British way of life

leaving their form uncollected at the polling station; the last of the big abstainers.

But there is another group of men and women, all living in Britain and directly affected by the new regime, which has no votes at all. Some are disenfranchised – they had the vote once, but it has been taken away from them – others, like women until comparatively lately, were never given it in the first place. Who are the great unprivileged class? Why do they not rise up against the powers that be and demand their small but significant contribution to the nation's democracy? What about their rights?

A good question. And, in the circumlocution of the politicians whose day of days this is, may I answer it by asking you another? Whoever heard of the Queen voting? No one. She doesn't because she's not a commoner and doesn't want to have anything to do with the Right Honourable Riff-Raff who make such a noise on the *Today* programme that Her Majesty has to turn over to Terry Wogan each morning. And the rest of the royal family feel the same way. Even if they are on the electoral register, they are not going to vote, because royals don't and that's that. Nor do any of the House of Lords, who think that they are as near royal as you can get without actually having *The Sun* inviting itself on holiday with them.

When Nye Bevan called them "worse than ermine" (Surely it was "worse than vermouth"? Ed.) it was under the assumption that most of them were going to vote Tory. Little did he know that none of them was going to vote anything because they had a bigger, plusher, redder chamber than the mere elected Members and there is nothing that would induce them to swap their privileges for a paltry stake, once in a while, in the appointment of an envious jabbermouth who is only hoping to end up sitting in the Lords if he plays his cards right anyway.

It was Lord Hailsham in his first incarnation, who said the British electorate would be "stark, staring bonkers" if they were to vote Labour, little knowing the catch in the constitution which says that if you are stark, staring bonkers, or even merely off your trolley, then you are not entitled to vote in any case. Or maybe that was his point: if you are thinking of voting Labour you are bonkers and therefore not entitled to vote, hence the downfall of a once-proud party. It would have been one of the most heinous tricks played upon socialism by the Upper House since Lord Stansgate hung up his coronet and insinuated himself among the commoners as Tony Benn.

Be that as it may, the thing about being crackers, if you want to carry on voting, is not to be caught at it by two doctors. One of the best places for avoiding detection is among the ranks of the House of Commons after lunch. Whereas in most professions, the more dast, ga-ga, looney-sounding, wild-haired and eyeball-swivelling you are the less chance there is of promotion, in the Commons quite the reverse is true.

Then there are minors, which is a posh name for children. They should not be confused with the other sort, who caused Ted Heath to ask who was governing Britain, only to be told smartly that he wasn't. Minors used to start at 21. Now they start at 18. Many MPs began life as minors, which is why the franchise has not been extended downwards lately – a classic example of the privileged pulling the ladder up after them.

One of the lasting puzzles of the British electoral system – and one, I should say, completely ignored by Walter Bagshot in his *English Constitution* – is why politicians spend so much time kissing minors or patting them on the head during elections. Maybe it is because they have no vote that politicians feel they can abuse them so freely.

If you are a guest of Her Majesty at, say, Windsor or Wormwood Scrubs, then you are ineligible to vote. The criminal fraternity counts this as one of its most jealously guarded perks. When inside, engaged upon an Open University course on high-precision printing or fine art or studying for a City and Guilds certificate in roof repairs, there is nothing so intrusive as a four-week hiatus while the straight and narrow get themselves sorted out.

Aliens are likewise vote-free. They can drink tea, go on strike, hate foreigners, eat fish and chips, sing Rule Britannia, dodge VAT and love the Queen Mum, but that does not make them one of us. They might call themselves British, but we think they are foreigners and, as such, they have no right to go poking their noses into our sacred birthright. We can mess it up without any help from them, thank you very much as will no doubt be proved by tomorrow morning.

Nicholas Wapshot

ON HER WAY BACK FROM THE POLLING STATION, FLAVIA SEES THE RETURNING OFFICER CRYING.

I put my sandwiches in the wrong box this morning, and they're been melting in here all day. Even as we speak the tactical votes could all be sticking together.

...At this very moment the cheese could be giving up a possible landslide.

How dreadful; I hate to hear of good sandwiches being defaced.

Perfectly, provided it's constitutional.

I'll take it down to the Town Hall now!

You'd better take this calorie chart in case there's a recount...

...And in addition I've lost my sealing wax to seal the ballot box against corruption and blue bottles drawn to the carpetbent.

Never mind, we'll put it in my fridge for an hour...

...That will conceal it. But I haven't got any sealing wax. Will Royal icing do?

CONGRESS

FLAVIA CORKSCREW'S GOOD FOOD GUIDE

...What's the matter?

...I'm Ivor Crewe.

...PONG

...BALLOT BOX

BOOKS

Fiction: Mailer and Gerhardie Up the Nile

Ancient Evenings
By Norman Mailer
(Macmillan, £9.95)

A plague – the plagues of Egypt – on Norman Mailer. He is probably the best, certainly the most conspicuous, still the most entertaining reporter of our times. He can unite some of the best blessings of American literary existence: inventiveness, originality, wit, acute critical and self-critical intelligence; sheer nerve. Even the occasional failure is a defiant step on what Emerson called the stairway of surprise. Now look what he has done.

Crude thoughts and fierce forces are my state. I do not know who I am. Nor what I was." A spectacular opening to *Ancient Evenings* fuels expectations that a powerful contemporary imagination has been working on some of the world's most ancient religious records like the *Pyramid Texts* of the 5th Dynasty, *The Book of the Dead*, and the *Coffin Texts* of the later Middle Kingdom. In the interplay of myth and ritual in Ancient Egypt, these spells and incantations ensured safe passage for the pharaohs into the next world.

Americans like Emerson, Whitman, Melville, Poe – and Europeans like Yeats – found potent inspiration in this archaic sorcery. Souls struggling free from bodies ritually prepared for ritual burial in unquiet graves. Magic Sex. The world of the dead. Resurrection through reincarnation. No wonder that Mr Mailer finds inspiration, too. His long dialectical dance of death, sex, and Kaballah, the Judaic Gnostic doctrine of evil Creation, antithetical to the Torah – should have found fine expression in a guided tour of a 19th Dynasty necropolis, evidently intended to represent late 20th century America.

The glut truth is that having found inspiration he has lost all sense of the ridiculous. 90 pages draw the reader into an extraordinary consciousness of the incarnate. The following 600 plunge to disaster. *Ancient Evenings* is not so much a novel, more a messianic mission; or a door-stop. Whatever it is, it is embarrassing.

But it is serious, as well as obsessively, extravagantly silly. Mr Mailer is on record with the remark that every writer thinks he is capable of anything. He is nothing if not courageous; and he should be taken seriously, for he is out to save us, souls and all – or if not all, at least the Americans. He seeks to zap us out of darkness into light.

Previous acquaintance with Ra (god of the sun in zenith, symbol of divine order and

Gay Firth

An ark of exotics

The Polyglots
By William Gerhardie

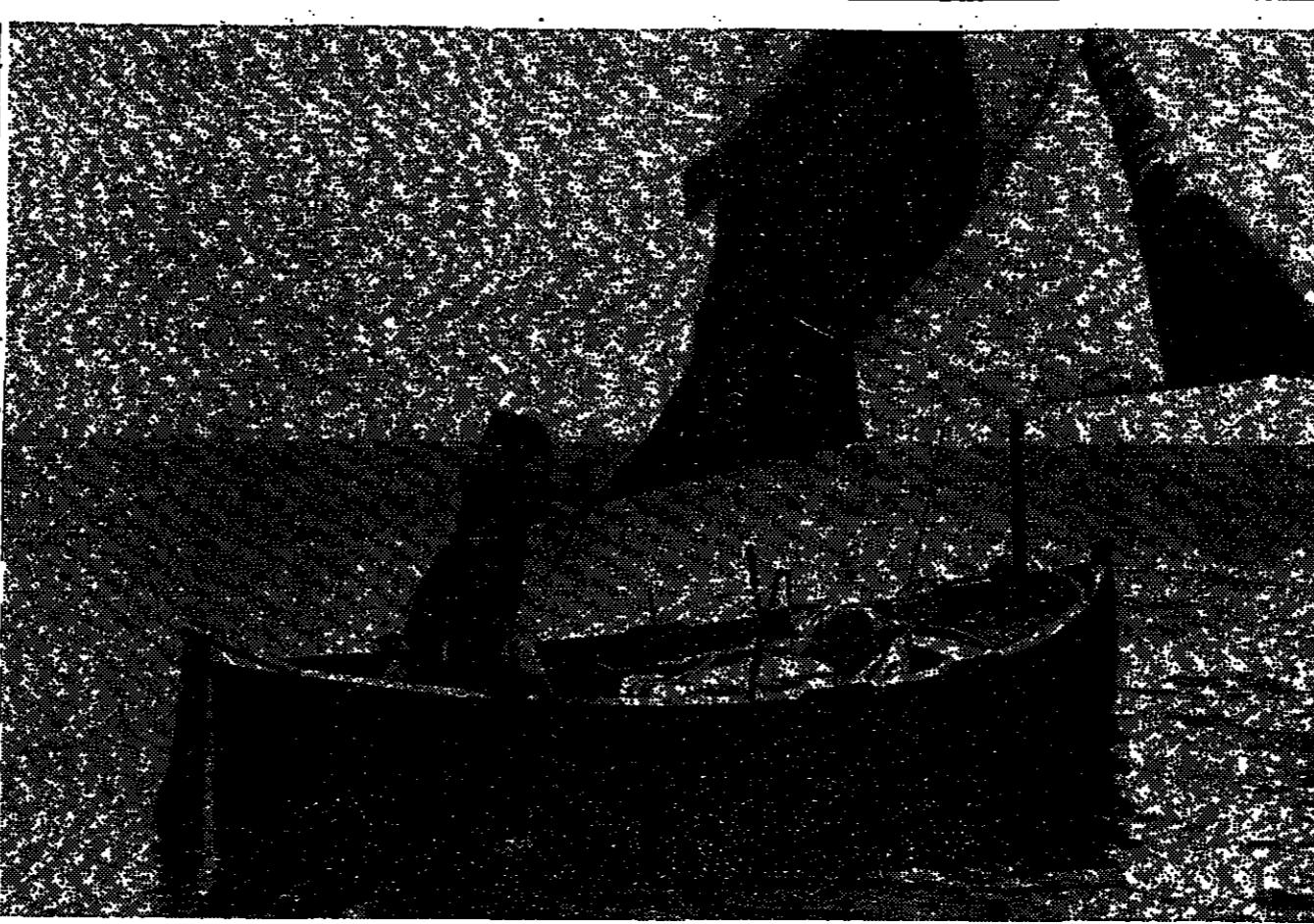
Introduction by Michael Holroyd
(Secker & Warburg, £7.95)

This marvellous novel was first published in 1923 when its author was 29. It was a success d'estime, and rightly so. Anthony Powell was put off reading it for several years because so many people recommended it. Evelyn Waugh "learned a great deal of my trade from it". Olivia Manning thought "He is our Gogol's Overcoat". We all come out of him". (This was before the critical word "seminal" came into currency.) Manning's remark is a bit too vague to be viable, but it is certain that Waugh did learn a lot. Was Gerhardie a novelist's novelist merely? Alas, he wasn't, a readers' novelist. He would have appreciated the irony of this re-issue six years after his death in obscurity. To hope that this time his book will get its due is a long hope. To use the ancient oratorical trick: I will not say it is a masterpiece, a classic; I will not speak of its sheer originality, or the lucidity, wit and irony of its writing. I will not comment upon the sententious and vividness of its observation nor the intelligence and spirit... Thank you, Demosthenes, that will do. Have you read it? How could I have? The author thinks you might have...

Starkly to say what happens in this book would be apt to spoil the way things happen. The scenes are exotic Japan, Far Eastern Russia (Harbin) in the aftermath of the War, 1920–22, with muddled Allied Military Missions and so forth. The people are Belgian expatriates, White Russians, English, American, Japanese and... the narrator, a young English officer named George Hamlet Alexander Diabolich. He is, he keeps telling us, an intellectual. He is vain, volatile, and very Chekhovian. All these people live in a shining golden mist, looming out sometimes like the fogbound sheep Wordsworth saw, large as bears. Yet you accept them as entirely flesh and blood, trivial, repetitive and silly: witty, deceitful, and sly. Gerhardie achieves their personalities by a brilliant use of repeated phrases and tricks of speech which might seem caricature but are not. He also has the play of using dialogue generally in English –

Patricia Dickinson

A Slipping-Down Life, by Anne Tyler (Seven House, £7.95); Anne Tyler is one of the up and coming American novelists, wittily clever, and perceptive about what makes people tick. Her last novel, *Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant*, was well received over here. This is an early one, published for the first time in hardback in the UK. It is about a romantic girl and an ambitious rock-singer from a small Southern town; and it is good.



Storm swells, music swells, sail swells, and the hero escapes to meet his destiny

Resurrecting la gloire of Napoleon

Napoleon
Abel Gance's Classic Film
By Kevin Brownlow
(Cape, £10.95)

Abel Gance's epic *Napoleon* was completed in 1927, but it was not until 1980 that an audience finally saw something that approximated to its maker's design. The effect was tremendous. This ancient, battle-scarred film proved it can still hold audiences enthralled through the seven or eight hours it takes, with intermissions, to a similar effect in *"The Book of Queens"*. And it is beyond belief, religious or otherwise, that the most dedicated devotee of homosexual and/or heterosexual buggery will not stand amazed at scenes exhaustively presented in language which script-writers for Mel Brooks or the Monty Python team might envy. Not to put too fine a point on it, Mr Mailer goes a bundle on buggery. Most of it, mercifully, is absurd.

"Men" has the dominant narrating voice throughout: thrice-reincarnated Menenhetet, Charioteer and victim of Rameses II; one-time harem-master, magic-maker, grave-rober. His stories, spun at the dinner table of Rameses IX, span his four lives – by no means merry ones – and a millennium. In and out of Meni fits his Ka: the personality or protective genius that rises from the body in the moment of death, and goes to meet its "double", or heavenly Ka.

But from first breath to last gasp the voices we hear, loud and clear, are those of Norman Mailer, wild child of Israel, and his Ka, who must have been Moses, once upon a time. Not for nothing has the 19th Dynasty been selected for their messianic purpose. In that era occurred the Flight from Egypt.

With time he rallied support: the story has its villains, but there are heroes too – among them the British Film Institute, the National Film Archive, Thames Television and Brownlow's partner, David Gill. Above

mobility. He mounted it on sledges, on guillotines, on great pendulums, on horseback – though Kevin Brownlow says it is a myth that he enclosed it in a bell and threw it in the air; it seems he only thought of doing that. He carried editing techniques to their limits, using subliminal cutting, with shots of only a tenth of a second. He divided the screen into multiple images. For the triptych he devised complex shot relationships which still demand analysis. He alternately bombarded and seduced his audience.

No body thanked him. The film was cut and mutilated by the distributors; the triptych was abandoned. Historical assessments based on these bastard versions were not much altered by Gance's own unfortunate sound adaptions.

Napoleon would have passed away like that but for the obsession of Kevin Brownlow. When he first showed me *Napoleon* 29 years ago, he was still a schoolboy. By that time had already reassembled about 90 minutes, which he screened on a 9.5 projector in his bedroom in Hampstead. Subsequently, he relentlessly scoured archives, private collections and junk markets across the world for the fragments from which eventually his restored *Napoleon*'s glories.

With time he rallied support: the story has its villains, but there are heroes too – among them the British Film Institute, the National Film Archive, Thames Television and Brownlow's partner, David Gill. Above

Carl Davis's orchestral accompaniment was to complement and crown Gance's own creation.

Before the dream was finally realized, Brownlow had worked on the film almost ten times as long as Gance himself. The almost culpable modesty of his record cannot conceal the heroism of the effort; and the excitement that sustained him is communicated, so that the reader shares the thrill of every new sequence found, every obstacle overcome. Brownlow writes as if it were a letter to a friend, and the revelations of his feelings are touching: "I'm in love with the whole film. It's part of me".

His story of *Napoleon* has sad and happy endings. The sad one is that with success (the resurrected *Napoleon* has already earned more than seven and a half million dollars) came the inevitable unseemly wrangling over rights and profits, which still continues. The happy end is that Gance lived long enough to see his dream restored. Kevin Brownlow remembers that among the slogans inscribed on his wall "For those with a mission to accomplish, bodily existence will last as long as is necessary". Just before he died in 1981, aged 92, Gance sent a last message to the *Napoleon* audience in London: "They have allowed me to rediscover through cinema my true language".

David Robinson

The best Prime Minister we haven't

Roy Jenkins

A biography
By John Campbell
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £10.95)

"Number Ten still beckons", this biographer writes of the Prime Minister-designate, in a closing passage which apparently mixes Jenkins' ambitions and the author's own aspirations. The kindest thing one can say at the moment is that Number Ten doesn't seem to be beckoning very hard.

One combs Dr Campbell's later chapters in search of hitherto undiscovered facts or insights which might shed light on Jenkins' thoughts and motives as he takes the kind of beating he apparently received at Eritrea Bridge, but there is not a great deal to be gleaned.

Research among Jenkins' lost friends and associates suggests less that Jenkins is lazy, presumptuous towards the electorate or out of touch, and more

that he is prone to sudden failures of nerve.

The book suffers from the combination of the author's sympathy with his subject and closeness in time to the events which he describes. But he has an excellent description of the botch Jenkins made – and it was clearly seen and felt as such by his closest acolytes – of resigning from the Opposition front-bench over Europe. After a sudden lurch into action at the wrong moment, he failed to follow through. After the brave and energetic campaigns in Warrington and Hillside, Jenkins seems to have folded up in a similar way. The general election campaign shows a recovered man who is still suffering the effects of his earlier feeblemess in the opinion poll ratings.

Dr Campbell diligently recrudes the many accusations laid at Jenkins' door over the years and stoutly defends him against most. The smallest slight does not slip by uncorrected. His

country home at East Hendred was apparently once described as "ramshackle". Not so: it is "actually a very neat white-washed vicarage".

The book is at its best when the author sheds this defensive ness (and he is extraordinarily defensive about Anthony Crosland throughout) and steps back a little from his subject. With more detachment, his descriptions of Jenkins now-forgotten Parliamentary speaking skills and his accounts of Jenkins's early perceptions of the coming difficulties which would force apart the components of the coalition known as the Labour Party, would carry greater weight.

Dr Campbell provides a fine account of Jenkins's literary and historical output, but is weaker on the workings of the civil service. He cites Jenkins's habit of writing his own budget speeches as evidence that he had mastered his department. Jenkins may indeed have done so, but a Chancellor drafting his

own budget speech – which might reveal anything from literary vanity to mistrust of official drafting – is not evidence in itself of such mastery. Was it really the case that his Permanent Secretary at the time had to book a seat on a flight to Washington to talk with him? This may have made good dinner table anecdote at the time, but by the time the first biography comes round, I think we should be let go.

Much evidence is glossed as tending to show that it is Mr Jenkins's destiny to shatter the mould. Dr Campbell does not tackle the problem that Mr Jenkins is himself a smoothly turned product of this very mould and from a fairly early pressing. The SDP seems to be in the process of discovering that a man who ascended to the top of a mass-based party via the fast stream, may not be the ideal man to build a new one from the ground upwards.

George Brock

Poetry

Fish and miracles for breakfast

The American poet Elizabeth Bishop was probably undervalued in this country during her lifetime – she died in 1979 at the age of 68. Her work appeared in the usual anthologies; she received critical mention usually in the same breath as her older contemporaries Marianne Moore; if she was praised it was nearly always for the same handful of poems, notably among them one called "The Fish", which were characterized as being brilliant bits of close natural observation. Now the publication of a sizeable volume entitled *The Complete Poems 1927–1979* (*Chatto & Windus with the Hogarth Press*, £10.95) affords the opportunity for some revaluation of her gift. I should say at once that Bishop does not strike me as a poet of great emotional impact – but then emotion is not all the story, and the evasive wit she employs to hide her heart is part of the pleasure her work offers an attentive reader. At her best she achieves originality by describing exotic scenes in a matter-of-fact way, as in "The Man-Moth", a powerful fantasy which takes off from a newspaper missprint for "mammot". Her other wholly successful manner is to exploit a fanciful notion just this side of sentimentality, as in this side of the Ceiling".

"We must go under the wallpaper to meet the insects-gardener, to battle with a net and trident, and leave the fountain and the square."

The bird resists the poet's attempts to feed and revive it; it dies, and he flings its corpse into the sea –

Or perhaps (for I could not see the body falling)

A hand rose out of air and plucked

the corpse

From its arc and took it, warm still,

To some safer place and concealed it,

there,

Quite unobtrusively, but sure, but sure,

there.

I very much like both the tone

and the substance of that, and it

sounds a note of quiet feeling

also to be heard in some dozen

or so other poems in this most

accomplished book.

111 Poems (*Carcanet New Press*, £5.95) is a selection from the five books which Christopher Middleton has published since 1976. This poet has a reputation for being eccentric to the point of obscurity. The present volume shows that reputation to be more apparent than real and in a long lighthearted piece – "At Porthcawl" – Middleton demonstrates that the essence of his talent is for a kind of passionate description not all that far away from Wordsworth. The poem celebrates the poet's attempted rescue of a half-drowned bird:

Early next morning, on the bay's north side,

I found it cuddled under the surf,

It was low again. What hungry

darkness

Had driven so the dark young chough

to shelter?

It did not resist when I picked it up.

Something had squeezed the cobra

out of it.

It was low again.

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Footinitism

I do not suppose for a moment that Michael Foot intends to immortalize Norman Tebbit, but at yesterday morning's press conference the Labour leader began speaking with alarming regularity of "Tebbitism". He did not specify the nature of this quality, other than saying that if the Tories were to be elected tomorrow, Britain would become "an ugly, uncaring, Tebbitite society". Later he even referred to "Tebbitism/ Thatcherism": it does not have quite the ring of Butskellism, or even Marxism/Leninism, but I suppose one can get used to anything.

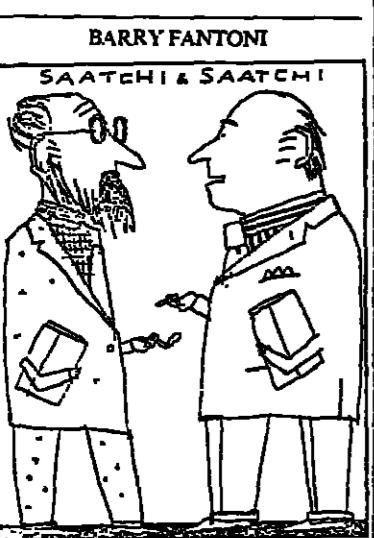
Signing off

When I embarked on this anagram business I never expected such copious assistance from my readers; brilliant though they have been, this is positively my last attempt to reargue our politicians. The official Michael Heseltine becomes, thanks to Margaret Barclay of Brussels, either "Eee, I'm in Heath's cell", or "Eh! Silence the Mail"; Denis Healey's convoluted plea to his constituents is "Ah, ye in Leeds!", while the Labour leader shouts from his lonely perch: "Hi! Come along!" To which David Owen retorts "A dive down". Gerry Finkle, of Barnet, delivers Francis Pym as "fancy prism", Roy Hattersley as "rat role, yet shy" and Bill Rodgers a "bridge rolls". From tomorrow I shall return to spelling names correctly and leave the fancy stuff to the crossword compilers.

My prize for the most upstaged vent of the campaign goes to the London Borough of Barking, where a by-election is being held today.

Of course

When vote-counting starts at Portsmouth South, David Fry (Traditional English Food and Good Life Party), my last free-thinking candidate, will already be bucking into his victory dinner. This will include venison broth, sprats in cream and mustard sauce, and sirloin of beef in pastry with game pie. Fry's manifesto claims that we would all feel better and the economy would improve if we ate good traditional English food. He pledges that his appetite will continue undiminished, no matter how bad the overall result.



"Who said you can't fool all the people all the time?"

Rising stock

This has not been the easiest of times for Sir Robin Day. First the Prime Minister removes his knighthood, then he receives the London Dungeon's Pillory Award for the personality whom its visitors would most like to see in the stocks and pelleted with rotten eggs. Day narrowly beats Joan Collins and Michael Parkinson for the honour, previously held by Des O'Connor and Barbara Cartland. But Mrs Thatcher has made amends for her slip on the last Election Call site and careful stress on the "Sir" every time she addressed him.

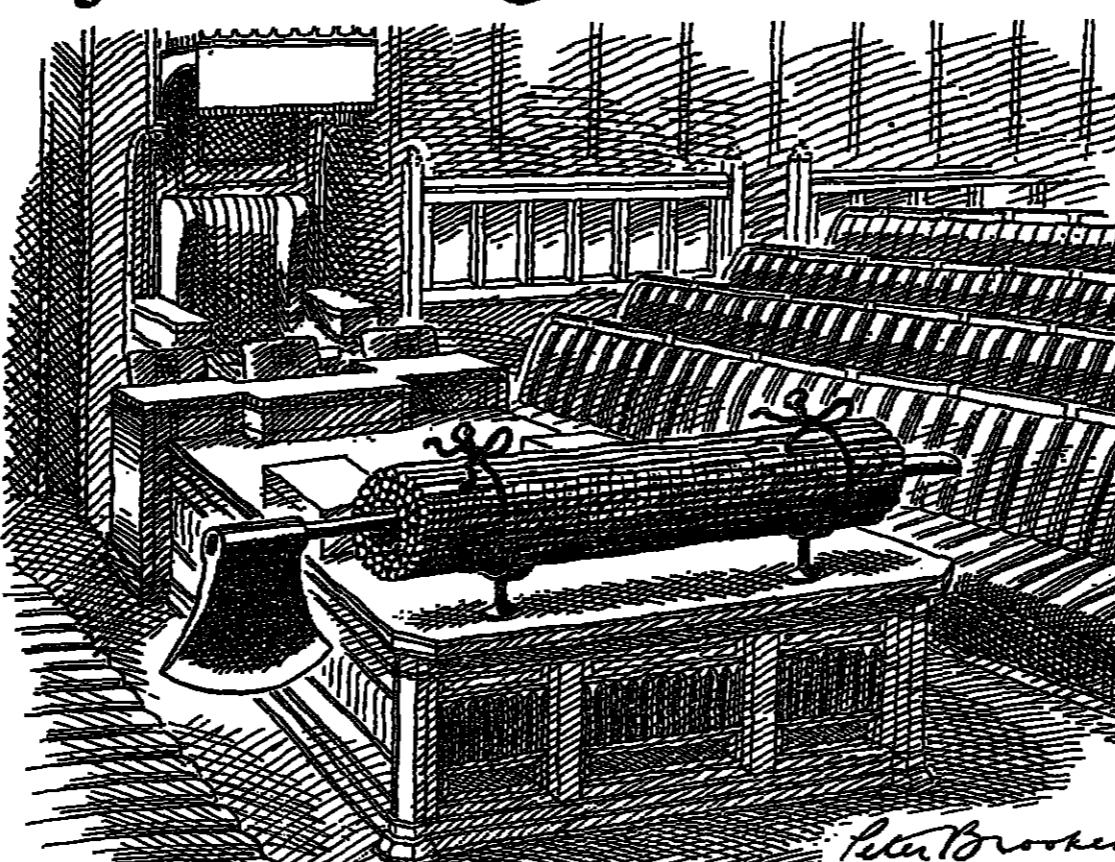
ember!

The Prince of Wales, Peter Jay and David Bellamy, among others, joined forces yesterday to launch *The Conservation and Development Programme for the UK*. Subtitled "a response to the World Conservation Strategy", it occupies two volumes, totalling 600 pages, and is perhaps 40 times as long as the document to which it is responding, which shortens us not to cut down too many trees and the like. The World Wildlife Fund has printed 4,000 sets, of which at least five (mostly unsolicited) have arrived at this office. Isn't that a bit of a waste, especially at £22.90 a set, and not even on recycled paper? It reflects the very high esteem in which we hold *The Times*, says a quick-thinking conservationist.

As a junior secretary for Northern Ireland, Donald Mitchell is no stranger to the physical dangers of politics, but he had never, until this year, regarded North West Hampshire as an area of high risk. For 19 years a Conservative MP, Mitchell has been canvassing zealously in this constituency - almost to a frenzy. One door was opened by a attractive young woman, and they are joined on the doorstep by a friend, to whom the candidate addressed the following remark: "Aren't you lovely. Aren't you gorgeous. I'd love to take you home with me." The husband, whom Mitchell describes as robust, was out sight but not out of earshot and sought the blandishments were being offered to his wife. Mitchell's dry tact averted an ugly scene, and he is even expecting the couple's

Bernard Levin on the strategy of Labour's new hard men

Don't laugh too soon, the fascist left is just biding its time



The augurers tell us we shall have news tonight. While we await it, I have a theme to develop, which though it is concerned with the composition of the new House of Commons, will not be affected by the result of the election, whatever that result is to be, even if there has been a last-minute swing to the Official Monster Raving Loony Party large enough to ensure that that admirable organization holds the balance of power.

We have heard much, during the campaign, about the Militant Tendency and its candidates, whom Mr Foot vowed to drive from the Labour Party and was last seen clapping to his bosom at election meetings from Brighton to Bradford. Despite the uproar, however, I am unable to work up much apprehension about this organization; I do not expect rivers to run backwards and the stars to fall from the sky with a clatter even if all five of the Tendency's declared candidates are elected as Labour MPs. At least until now, it has always seemed to me that in Britain groups which are out to destroy democracy are unlikely to succeed in their aim if they announce it in advance, for whatever may be the case in some other countries, the people of this one are unlikely to respond favourably if they are asked to choose representatives who insist that their dearest wish is to make the X which elected them the very last the voters will ever have a chance to put on the ballot paper. Under the combined pressure of the more sensible members of the Labour Party's NEC and a belated recognition of this eccentric attitude on the part of the voters, Militant Tendency conspired to mislead the profoundly totalitarian nature of its beliefs and present itself and its candidates (who in any case do not include the organization's leaders) as apostles of the purest and most idealistic form of Periclean democracy. But by then the damage had been done; though Labour voters may put some or all of the Militant candidates into Parliament, simply because they carry the Labour standard, they are branded as adherents of a doctrine that is incompatible with the principles on which parliamentary democracy rests.

We have, of course, long had adherents of totalitarian political creeds (or, to be precise, of one such) in the House of Commons. But the communist sympathisers who sit as Labour MPs have almost always been distinguished by two qualities from the more recent, less Soviet-oriented, variety. They take care never to challenge the Labour Party directly except over specific policies, and - much more important - they have always insisted that they are loyal democratic socialists; in other words, they have done their work by stealth, and blushed to find it.

Lately, they have become a little bolder; there are Labour MPs in an organization - it is not a secret one - devoted to supporting the Soviet Union's actions in Afghanistan, and Mr Ernie Roberts has openly advocated a "communist society" and "the dictatorship of the proletariat". But we can nevertheless expect the Soviet Union's admirers in the Parliamentary Labour Party to continue their work in their traditional manner; it was the CP, after all, which invented "entryism" something over half a century ago, and its leaders must be half amused and half genuinely indignant at seeing the term used as though the practice had been thought up by the modern Trotskyites.

If the CP poses no new threat, and the Militant Tendency's MPs have been rumbled in advance, what is there to be afraid of? I can put the

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As the conduct of these people is characterized by their contempt for the rights of the opposition parties, an attitude which is always one of the most reliable indicators of the totalitarian mind. Mrs Anne Sofer, the only SDP member of the GLC, has described on this page the way in which the rulers of the GLC contrive to prevent any examination of their looting of the public purse for distribution in donatives to their supporters and potential supporters; the intimidation experienced by the only opposition member of Islington council would long ago have destroyed a less resolute man; in Sheffield the controlling group has gone far towards turning the city into something scarcely distinguishable from a Soviet fief.

As powerful as the contempt for

opposition is the contempt for the people - the other infallible test of the anti-democratic attitude. The groups which control the local authorities I have mentioned do not believe that any but a handful of voters want the policies they pursue; but they pursue them with relentless assiduity none the less. For they are

not in the business of serving the voters. Their business is something very different: it is the garnering of power. And the more they acquire, the easier it becomes for them to acquire still more.

It could not be supposed that the fascist left would long remain unrepresented in Parliament. Whatever happened in this election, a substantial number of Labour MPs who have no regard for parliamentarian democracy will have been returned. Some analysts have said that they will constitute a majority of the PLP; this seems to me very unlikely, though if their genuinely democratic colleagues prove to be as cowardly as their counterparts on the GLC, that will hardly matter.

Others say that if there is a Conservative government with a large majority there is nothing to do but organize a coup and take over the country; such nonsense is nowhere in their minds. They will instead continue to aim at taking over the Labour Party, using the enormously more powerful position that having substantial numbers of their men in Parliament will give them. Their calculation is simple, and almost certainly correct: they reason that if they can complete their capture of the Labour Party, sooner or later the Labour Party, under their control, will win an election, not because the country has espoused revolutionary communism, but more or less by default. And then?

That will not stop the laughing, either. But people have laughed before now, and subsequently decided that there was really nothing much to laugh at. Once upon a time before the First World War, or so the story goes (*se non e vero...)*, when Trotsky was living in Vienna under his real name, Bronstein, he used to spend his days at the Cafe Central, where he would scribble interminable manifestos and articles for obscure magazines, which were smuggled into Russia in pitiful small numbers.

Two Austrian socialists were talking one day about the coming revolution. One, loyal to Marxist theory, insisted that it would come in an industrially advanced country like Germany; the other predicted that it would be in Russia. His friend told him he was talking nonsense: there wasn't even an urban proletariat in Russia, an essential prerequisite for revolution. "And besides", he concluded, "a revolution needs leaders, and who is there to lead a revolution in Russia - little Mr Bronstein, down at the Cafe Central?"

What we have to face is the fact that for the first time in Britain we have a genuinely Leninist movement that is of sufficient size, ability, and dedication to demand that we take it seriously. The Stalinists of the Communist Party, in or out of the PLP, have no real influence except in CND, some trade unions and labour relations

generally (though that "except" covers a great deal of success); the Militant Tendency will be employed by the Leninists wherever they can be useful to the cause, though the real hard men must despise them as much as Lenin despised his own equivalents (he wrote a pamphlet about them, called *Left-wing Communism: An Infantile Disorder*); but if the long march of the implacable enemies of democracy will not be speeded up by such groups on their flank, neither will it be slowed down by any respect for Parliament and its proprieties. There was nothing at all that Lenin would not do to further his aims in this, too. Britain's Leninists resemble their evil patron.

If the Labour Party has lost today's election, particularly if it has lost it very badly, there will be laughter in many quarters at the absurdity of what I have said in this column. Allow me to assure the amused that none of the people I have in mind will waste their time laughing or for that matter weeping: setbacks mean as little to them as the disesteem of their opponents, and they will simply continue with their work, inside Parliament now as well as outside.

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Trying the Scargill muzzle for size

The press and the election: Christopher Ward looks for a pattern in Fleet Street's state of union disruption



The Star gives it to them straight; so does the Mirror - but too late to have an impact.

election campaign by an NGA walk-out over a pay dispute. Since the *FT* is one of the few politically independent newspapers and had been taking a particularly unfriendly view of the Government, it is hard to see the political thinking behind the primary action. But in the climate of this industrial censorship, Arthur Scargill's remarks that "legislation to take newspapers... into state ownership should take priority above all else for any future Labour government" ought to be treated by Fleet Street as a serious threat to editorial freedom.

Tuesday was the day that cynics, students of bungling and readers of the *Daily Star* had been awaiting with excitement and anticipation since the beginning of the election. The *Daily Star*, adopting the slogan, "the paper that gives it to you straight", had promised its readers impartial reporting of the campaign and "our verdict loud and clear when the time comes". Which party would this fiercely independent paper with a Tory proprietor end up backing? The suspense was killing.

On Tuesday we were put out of our misery. "Sorry Michael, we can't vote for you," said the *Star's* editor.

And, of course, the voice of the *Financial Times* has been silenced during the crucial last week of the

banner headline. Why? The *Star's* editor, Lloyd Turner, went to enormous lengths to explain why and how his newspaper had come to this difficult decision. "The Labour Party has changed... We believe a change of direction at this time could be potentially catastrophic... this newspaper believes in firm, clear leadership... like it or not, there is only one leader REALLY in charge of a political party, a political philosophy, in Britain today. That person is Margaret Thatcher." But didn't the *Daily Star* know all this before the election?

Unfortunately for Michael Foot, Labour's tabloid ally, the *Daily Mirror*, entered the battle when the election already seemed to be lost. Its "Waste of a Nation" series had been in the best campaigning, caring tradition, so, indeed, was its strong anti-Maggie, front-page "Two Faces" leader on Tuesday. But both came too late to do Foot or Labour any good. One has sensed from the beginning of the election campaign that the *Mirror's* heart has not been in it. Clearly it believes that *The Guardian* had the courage to say on Tuesday: "The party for the working class no longer speaks for its workers."

Something eerie about this general election; something quite real," said a *Mail* leader earlier this week. What's eerie about it is that unlike most elections, we all know, or think we know, what the outcome of this one is going to be: thanks to the unprecedented number of polls that have been conducted. As a result newspapers are beginning to repeat themselves. "There's no stopping her now," read the *Mail's* banner headline on Monday. Yesterday, sounding tired and slightly bored, it announced "It's still Maggie by a mile."

The boredom factor has to be the reason for so much mud-slinging so late in the day, much criticized by *The Times* voters panel this week. Like a crowd of soccer hooligans driving home after a game, supporters of the losing team can't resist leaving the odd brick through shop windows, and the winners can't stop themselves jeering. I think we should all be grateful to the Prime Minister for not having prolonged the agony until June 23.

The author was until recently editor of the *Daily Express*.

Ronald Butt

Why this election could be a real turning point

This election is first and foremost about the challenge that Mrs Thatcher represents to the British people. It is about her invitation to them to act on, and not to try to escape from, the realities with which she confronts them. Yet historically the election is about the Labour Party. For it was Labour's performance in the 1960s and 1970s - when, with the unions, it was the pivot of British politics - that brought us to a new turning point at which Mrs Thatcher emerged into power.

In 1945, the country elected the Attlee government because it wanted a new deal, because the social changes unleashed by the war had spread the conviction that the Tories were not the party to deliver one, and above all because the electorate had been convinced by the presence of Labour ministers in the wartime Cabinet that they were fit to govern. The pre-war misgivings about Labour's socialism and its extremist wing had fallen away.

By 1951, after the Attlee government's injection of a large but not decisive dose of socialism into the body politic, the electorate had decided that it had had enough. It had got what it had principally wanted in the modern welfare state. But it did not want more nationalization and it came to suspect that Labour politicians liked controls, restrictions and bureaucracy for their own sake.

So the Conservatives were returned to power and a new political dispensation was established in which both Tories and Labour broadly acquiesced. Both parties accepted the post-1945 welfare state, a free society and a mixed economy - though each party drew somewhat differently the desired line between individual and collective responsibility, and between private and public ownership. There was a bipartisan defence and foreign policy.

After 13 years of Tory government (which, following the fashion of that time, inclined increasingly towards economic planning at the end of its term) Harold Wilson led Labour back to power. He was able to do so because his predecessor, Hugh Gaitskell, had defeated attempts to commit Labour to left-wing socialism. Wilson won (just) in 1964, and again in 1966 because he convinced enough of the electorate that Labour would maintain the mixed economy and could solve the nation's problems by voluntary planning for prosperity in consultation with the trade unions and management. Economic growth, secured by agreement, would pay painlessly for better benefits for all.

The unions destroyed that grand design by refusing to deliver the pay restraints required by the government's plans. They defeated a similar Tory attempt under Edward Heath and created a crisis in which the electors drove the Conservatives from office, but significantly refused Labour an outright majority. With either no majority, or with a tiny majority, or with the help of the Liberals, the Wilson-Callaghan governments of 1974-79 survived to try to control a deteriorating economy - this time by blatantly buying the unions off with the Danegeld of government spending. Predictably, the unions behaved like marauding Danes and in the winter of 1978-79 destroyed the Callaghan government.

Two Austrian socialists were talking one day about the coming revolution. One, loyal to Marxist theory, insisted that it would come in an industrially advanced country like Germany; the other predicted that it would be in Russia. His friend told him he was talking nonsense: there wasn't even an urban proletariat in Russia, an essential prerequisite for revolution. "And besides", he concluded, "a revolution needs leaders, and who is there to lead a revolution in Russia - little Mr Bronstein, down at the Cafe Central?"

What was America's Glomar Explorer looking for down there anyway? Moscow has been outspending America 10-to-1 on bathymetographs, and neo-oscillatonists have been deriding America's efforts to catch up.

3. Volcanoes

Some crack-brained meteorologists argue that the eruption of El Chichón in Mexico, and the continuing softness of Mount St Helens in the United States, messed up the trade winds by warming the upper atmosphere and thereby preventing El Niño from being blown out to sea. This is balderdash.

4. The Martians

A malign presence in outer space would be expected to put El Niño to sleep with simple gravitational suspension. On the other hand, benign visitors from other solar systems might want to rouse the wary buildup off the Earth a little so as to observe us better. No hard evidence of other worldly intervention comes to hand, but certainly this possibility is more credible than drivelling about volcano soot.

5. God

Modern theologians are loth to attribute stress-causing vengeance to a Divine Being, but who is to say He hasn't been given good reason to rain down hailstones? Those who tend to dismiss this hypothesis are given pause by the name of the current.

6. The Devil

It could be that the previous Suspect is not angry, yet may consider another test of faith to be desirable. In that case El Niño could be put in the hands of the Prince of Mud Slides for a year or so, temporarily to visit injustice on home owners and to reward renters.

None of these potential causes for the affliction of El Niño can be ruled out, with the exception of volcanoes, which is ridiculous. Personally, I tend to blame the Russians. If they're not doing it, they're probably getting away with something else, and it evens out.

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RENEWAL

Decisive changes in history are generally attributed to external causes. In reality most changes in external circumstances arise as the culmination of a long process occurring gradually within the unconscious minds of individuals. Societies subscribe to a prevailing attitude to life which often dominates all conscious behaviour and thus takes much longer to change on the surface than underneath it. Today some 42 million people will be able to exercise their votes, as individuals. They will do so in the confessional privacy of a secret ballot. There will be no show of hands; no block vote bullying. The result will thus be the aggregate of millions of individual expressions of personal opinion. It will, in that sense, be the expression of a community's will as voiced by individuals acting on their own without external pressures. They have today an opportunity, as individuals, to signify one of those historic moments of change.

After four weeks of challenge and response, insult and argument, forecasts and recasts, lies and statistics, the voter is at last to be left to decide for himself. That is a decisive and priceless element in our democratic procedures. It means that, for all the quasi science of opinion polling and what might be called behavioural politics, the decision ultimately rests on genuine and individual choice. So should every decision, even an historic one, since in the last analysis the essential element of all history is not the passage of captains and kings, but the life of the individual.

Of course such a process has its risks. They are not the risks which political leaders might perceive that such a society of individuals would produce unpredictable and unwelcome decisions. That does not happen in a healthy society, which is one able to reconcile its own collective needs with the requirement

to nourish and sustain each person's individualism. That healthiness comes about through a public and private capacity for self-criticism.

For the last three weeks we have seen and heard much discord. That disunity is evidence of self-criticism both for the nation as a whole and for individuals. We can nationally profit from this kind of exposure, since the divisions within the body politic are probably reflected in each of us as witnesses or participants in the contest. That is as it should be. Our dislikes are normally concentrated on the things which in reality reveal to us our own imperfections. So it is with the nation. Fighting a general election among ourselves, therefore, is a much better way of seeing our own faults than of projecting them onto our neighbours or potential adversaries.

We should thus look upon a general election as an opportunity for renewal. While the argument has raged it has naturally focused on all the surface phenomena of political management, and of those none could be nearer the surface than the results of opinion polls. They have, in a strictly technical sense, preconditioned the nature of the debate. Consequently the Conservative policies have not really been tested, nor have they had to be since the polling suggested from the start that there was neither a credible nor a creditable alternative government. Perhaps this meant that the press, television and even the opposition parties themselves progressively bowed to what appeared to be the inevitable.

It would be tempting to conclude from this that the opinion polls have somehow deadened the debate and that they could thus be blamed for a distorted result tomorrow. That would be a false argument. It is based on the fallacy that the choice of a new government, because it appears to be encapsu-

lated in a three week election campaign culminating in a vote, is not made by most people until three weeks before that vote. Superficially that may seem to be the case when the process of profound change is masked by the prevailing views and attitudes of a society which, like all societies, finds no pleasure in the spectacle of a new idea.

That idea, whose time has come – or come again – is not concerned with the details of economic policy, or unemployment, or nuclear weapons. It is not about these particulars, though the debate about them has helped to illuminate deeper attitudes nearer to the core of human nature. The idea is ultimately about the individual's responsibility for himself, and through this self-awareness his responsibility for his community.

At the heart of all the policies presented to us during the election campaign that philosophy is only discernible in practical application from the Conservatives, and only then on account of the fact that the Prime Minister – like her or loathe her – is an example of what an individual can achieve, both for herself and for the community, if she applies her own standards of values to the world about her.

That sense of individual responsibility must be restored more fully in public affairs, in the board room, in trade unions, in schools, in the council estates.

Then Britain would indeed profit from a truly profound renewal. New ideas are here, they are enemies of the old. They appear as a rule in an extremely unacceptable form to the old custodians of Britain's post-war decline wherever they are found. Of all Britain's political leaders today Mrs. Thatcher provides the most effective challenge to that decline. As Airey Neave said to her on the night she was elected to lead the Conservative Party, "Come, we have work to do". She has indeed.

It is wrong for parties to glorify their leaders as though the voters were actually going to vote for them. The only votes for Thatcher, Foot, Steel or Jenkins will be cast in their own constituencies.

Yours faithfully,

JONATHAN HOPCRAFT,
The Vicarage,
Bilton,
Gainsborough,
Lincolnshire.

June 7.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Profit and loss at the polls

From Lord Harlech and others

Sir, Now it is all over bar the voting. Yet that is where a serious question arises. Predicting the result of a three-way contest in a first-past-the-post election is foolhardy, for the relationship between the parties' final share of votes and seats will be very distorted.

However, assuming the current opinion polls are approximately right, we venture three predictions.

First, that a Conservative vote of around 45 per cent will be rewarded with a substantial overall majority of seats.

Second, that the remaining 55 per cent of votes will be rewarded with a minority of seats.

Third, that within that minority comparable votes for Labour and the Alliance will be rewarded by a seat in a ratio of approximately 5-1.

The advantage given to one particular party on this occasion could well be reversed at the next election.

This is neither fair nor rational. It distorts the intention of the electorate in a way which damages democratic representation.

Surely this is the last election that should be held on the present ludicrously inequitable and outdated voting system.

Yours faithfully,

PETER FARR,
12 Beechy Lanes Road,
Kensington,
London SW7.

June 7.

From the Reverend J. R. Hopcraft

Sir, British general elections are parliamentary elections, not leadership elections. Between 1974 and 1979 all three major parties changed their leaders without consulting the electorate.

It is wrong for parties to glorify their leaders as though the voters were actually going to vote for them. The only votes for Thatcher, Foot, Steel or Jenkins will be cast in their own constituencies.

Yours faithfully,

JONATHAN HOPCRAFT,
The Vicarage,
Bilton,
Gainsborough,
Lincolnshire.

June 7.

From Lord Shawcross, QC

Sir, PHS, in his amusing comment (May 31) has however not got it quite right. I have not turned full circle. In my recent speech I said that I was in fact the original SDP, having left the Labour Party over 20 years ago, believing that it would be taken over by the extreme left wing and believing that electoral reform and an elected second Chamber were the only safe insurance against political extremes.

I said that a Labour victory at this election would be an irreversible disaster for the country and I hoped that the Conservatives would win. But I also urged the large moderate but mainly silent element in the Labour Party to vote for and then join the SDP, so that after the election that party would become the effective Opposition, leaving the Marxists, Trotskyists, Workers' Revolutionaries *et al* out on a limb. Thus we could return to the old Whig/Tory tradition of Britain's greater day.

Meanwhile I remain – and suspect I always was – a Whig.

Yours sincerely,

HARTLEY SHAWCROSS,
House of Lords.

June 2.

From Mr P. M. Roth

Sir, "Tomorrow is ours", declared Mrs Thatcher to a massed youth rally in the Wembley Conference Centre on Saturday. She was clearly referring not simply to the result of the election but to her distinctive vision of a future Conservative Britain.

Is there not something profoundly alarming in the Conservatives' concerted efforts both to portray Labour as an extinct force and, at the same time, to decry the attempt of the Alliance to establish a credible alternative?

There may, indeed, be nothing intrinsically undemocratic in a landslide majority. But in a system where the Government faces neither the check of an effective second Chamber nor the control of an entrenched Constitution, a massive majority for the party in government is inherently unhealthy.

It was Lord Hailesham who described the British political system as an "elective dictatorship". Presidential politics without either a separately elected Congress or the safeguard of the Supreme Court would be unthinkable in the United States.

The presidential-style politics that is foreshadowed by the Conservative election campaign, and which a landslide Conservative victory

includes in its list of "Ideas whose time is up" the hope of

return to full employment in conventional full-time jobs. The adaptions it sees us being required to come to terms with are less easily digestible, more truly radical, than any party would willingly set out in an election manifesto. Being under no pressure to whittle to keep the voter's spirits up, it looks relatively cool at the hopes and fears for a future extending far beyond the life of the next Parliament, and far beyond the sectional interests of a British electorate, or of Europe, or the West.

The meat of it is in the small print. The broader the brush with which policies in this field

are drawn, the easier it is to command assent, and vice versa.

A glance at its list of summarised conclusions might lead the reader to think that its quangoistic origins had imposed a bland readiness to be all things to all men. We none of us oppose reducing pollution, after all, or "promoting resourceful urban enterprises". The question is how and at what cost in public spending and public intervention in private affairs. The report has a decided bent towards intervention, but at the same time it stresses the importance of local and individual self-help in combating the apathy-inducing problems of urban and industrial decay.

It has firm and controversial strictures to make on specifics, like the official conduct of the Sizewell debate, the influence of the Common Agricultural Policy on the landscape and the loss of fertile land under concrete and tarmac. It insists on the dangers of insularity in our comparatively well-favoured corner of a world wasting its resources at an accelerating rate. It reaffirms in modern terms, and with a wealth of detail, the wisdom of Bacon's old maxim that the right way to rule nature is to do it by yielding to her. It would be a pity if so far-seeing a document failed to catch attention just because of an ephemeral national fluster about an election.

In two papers written in April, 1861, Lt-Col James Baker, then commanding the Cambridge University OTC, advocated a military degree at the universities, "an examination for honours in military science." The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge wrote to the Secretary for War on May 6, 1861, commanding the papers for further consideration.

The subject of the education of officer candidates was something which greatly interested Prince Albert and he had corresponded with both the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and the Secretary for

Yours faithfully,

DUNCAN H. ROBINSON,
The Orchard Cottage,
Hawkhurst,
Kent.

June 4.

Military degree

From Mr Duncan H. Robinson

Sir, The Duke of Edinburgh (report, June 3) is not the first Prince Consort to take up the idea of a military degree; it was a subject considered by Prince Albert 120 years ago!

In two papers written in April, 1861, Lt-Col James Baker, then commanding the Cambridge University OTC, advocated a military degree at the universities, "an examination for honours in military science." The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge wrote to the Secretary for War on May 6, 1861, commanding the papers for further consideration.

Without the Prince's support Baker's project was lost, although by 1863 the scheme of issuing certificates of exemption for officer candidates with university degrees had been instituted; thus, a university degree admitted to the Army without further examination.

Yours faithfully,

DUNCAN H. ROBINSON,
The Orchard Cottage,
Hawkhurst,
Kent.

June 4.

View from No 10

From Dr C. J. H. Wright

Sir, In answer to Dr and Mrs Richard Ward's query (June 3) concerning the existence of meteorological records of weather conditions prevailing in western Europe immediately after 1824, I should like to point out that the Radcliffe Meteorological Station, Oxford, has maintained a continuous meteorological record since 1815.

I can assure him that, at least on Coronation Day itself, there certainly was. Thirty years ago today, as a child of five, I watched the ceremony on TV.

Yours faithfully,

BASIL GOMEZ,
Radcliffe Meteorological Observatory,
Jesus College,
Oxford,
Pall Mall, SW1.

June 3.

Where orchids flourish

From Dr A. S. Thomas

Sir, Botanists will be delighted that the Nature Conservancy is taking steps to protect some of our less common orchids (report, May 19). But it must be remembered that rabbits are a greater menace to these beautiful and interesting plants than humans.

When feral rabbits were virtually eliminated by myxomatosis in the 1950s, there was a spectacular increase in orchids, which appeared in places where they had not been seen for many years and at that time twelve distinct species, some in great abundance, were growing on the Old Winchester Hill national nature reserve. But when feral rabbits were allowed to increase, most of the orchids disappeared. If only the sale of wild rabbit meat and skins had

been forbidden, as in New Zealand, many of our less common plants would have increased, as in New Zealand.

The orchids, the cowslips and other desirable plants of our chalk down are concentrated on the hard layers of the chalk. If one species of orchid grows at a certain place, then other species are likely to grow there, a fact which indicates that soil factors influence the soil fungi on which the orchids depend.

Our farm crops have gained vigour through the correction of soil deficiencies; it is highly desirable that soil deficiencies should be corrected for the benefit of our more desirable wild plants.

Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR THOMAS,
Goodings,
Sloe Lane,
Arlington,
East Sussex.

June 4.

Volcanoes and weather

From Dr Basil Gomez

Sir, In answer to Dr and Mrs Richard Ward's query (June 3) concerning the television of the Coronation, has said, in your paper (report, May 30) and on the BBC PM programme, that at the time there was no television set at 10 Downing Street.

I can assure him that, at least on Coronation Day itself, there certainly was. Thirty years ago today, as a child of five, I watched the ceremony on TV.

Yours faithfully,

CATHERINE WRIGHT,
Caulcroft, High Street,
High Shuncliffe, Durham.

June 2.

Moral priorities on nuclear defence

From the Bishop of Winchester

Sir, I am grateful to Professor John H. Humphrey and others (June 3)

for their forthright declaration that

the question of Britain's defence

policy transcends all other issues in

this election and ought to transcend

party politics. For as long as it is

argued as a choice between several

strategic options the more confused

and inconclusive that argument will

become.

If we were to clarify our moral

priorities – what we are ethically

obliged to try to achieve above all

else – this would limit the strategic

options to which we might give the

support of our vote. Guidance of

any sort, but especially the guidance

of God, works by reducing the

options.

The churches have already identi-

fied the moral priorities far more

clearly and consistently than is

commonly supposed. The pastoral

letter signed by most of the Roman

Catholic bishops in the USA in May

agrees point by point with the

resolutions passed by a large

majority in the General Synod of the</

JULY 150

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The Strada II Energy Saver is anything but an ordinary 'economy' model.

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But the ES is not designed to be miserly at the expense of excitement.

The beauty is, it still has all the acceleration and responsive handling of the Strada.

And like all Strada II models, it takes numerous other steps to improve both economy *and* performance.

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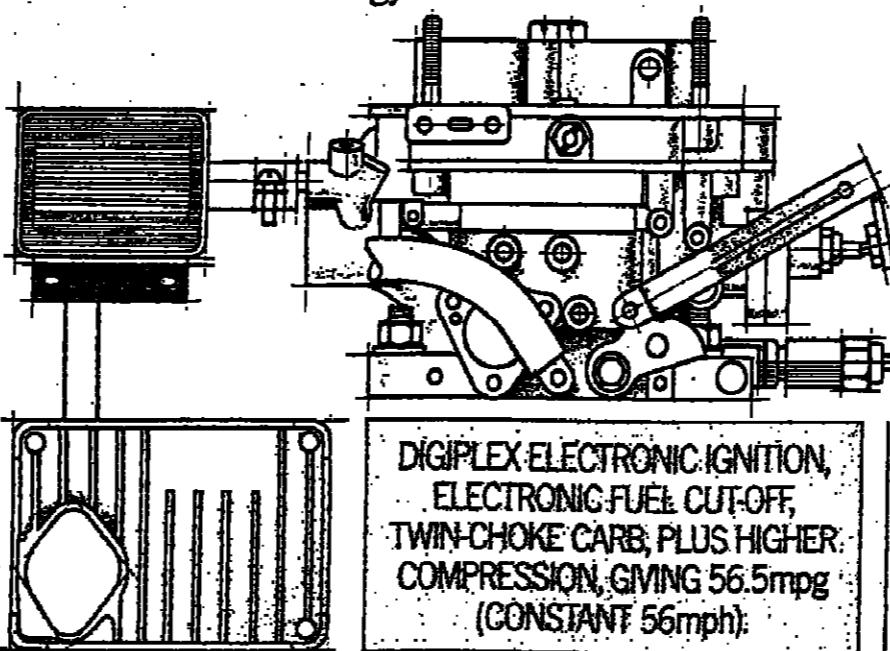
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FIAT

THE ARTS



La Candide Erendira: Marina Vlady as the "handsome whale" of a grandmother, and Catherine Benamou in the title role

Ronald Hayman on the prolific Paris stage

Brook's touching conviction

For Englishmen like me who alternate gaily between overtipping and underipping ushertettes in Paris, it is a relief to arrive at such theatres as the renovated Théâtre de l'Est and Peter Brook's Bouffes du Nord, where there are no reserved seats and therefore no ushertettes. The disadvantage is that Paris audiences tend to arrive early if the show is popular; an hour before the lights were due to go up on Brook's *La Céruse* (*The Cherry Orchard*), nearly all the seats in the centre aisle of the stalls had already been claimed.

His production is very much a family affair, with his wife, Natasha Parry, as Mme Ranevskaya, Irina Brook as Anya and several of the actors from his group which has been working with him in Paris. This is an advantage. The play is more about a group than about individuals, and in this production, although none of the individual performances is outstandingly good, except Guy Trejan's Gaev and Joseph Blatchley's Trofimov, the group as a whole comes more vividly and movingly to life than it usually does. I have never seen a *Cherry Orchard* in which people touch each other and play jokes on each other more convincingly or more expressively.

The theatrical experience to be had at the Théâtre de l'Est is a strange and exciting one. *La Cendre Erendira* is an adaptation by Miguel Torres of Gabriel García Márquez's 40-page story *The Incredible and Sad Tale of Innocent Erendira and Her Heartless Grandmother*. Like the story, the

production by the Argentinian director Augusto Boal combines charming simplicity with bizarre ferocity.

The beautiful Marina Vlady, sister of Odile Versois and star of Godard's *Deux ou trois choses que je sais d'elle*, wears flexible padding moulded like a fat female body so that the performance can begin exactly as the story does, with the 14-year-old girl bathing her formidable grandmother, who looks like a handsome whale... naked and huge in the marble tub?

When Erendira accidentally sets fire to the house, the diabolical old woman decides that the child owes her \$72,315 pesos, which must be realized through her only asset, her young body. On the circus-like stage, with a busy score of Latin-American music, the production carries us engagingly through a series of adventures involving smugglers, soldiers, nuns, prostitutes, Indians, a magician, a politician and finally a murder, when Ulises, the most romantic of Erendira's lovers, stabs the almost unkillable old lady. An unpleasant green viscous fluid oozes from Marina Vlady's padding.

Delphine Seyrig and Georges Wilson are still packing the Théâtre de l'Oeuvre with *Sarah et le cri de la langouste*, the play about Sarah Bernhardt by John Murrell. Originally called *Mémoir*, it was produced at the Ontario Festival in 1977 and seen briefly in London with Siobhan McKenna as Bernhardt. Another star actress, Marthe Keller, is to be seen with Pierre Arditi in Andreas

Voutsinas's production of *Les Exiles* by James Joyce at the Théâtre du Ronde Point.

At the Théâtre de la Madeleine a major attempt is being made to restore André Roussin's work to fashion. He had a tremendous international success at the beginning of the Fifties with his 1947 play *The Little Hat*, which Peter Brook directed in London and New York.

In Paris Roussin's 1955 comedy *L'Amour fou* has just opened with a company led by Simone Valère and Jean Desailly. The idiosyncratic comedian Claude Pieplu is having a success at the Théâtre Saint-Georges with his own production of a two-hander called *Six heures au plus tard* by Marc Perrier. The set and the premise for the plot are absurd - a car has crashed through the wall of a cottage, causing no damage to the driver, the bonnet of the man who was asleep in the bed underneath the hole now filled with the protruding car. But the relationship between the driver, a gangster and the eccentric cottage-owner is amusingly developed.

At the Athénée Jean-Claude Drouot is starring in his own production of Dumas's *Keän*, revived in Sartre's adaptation with Sophie Deschamps. At the Comédie Française there is a new Moléire double bill consisting of *Amphytrion* and *Le Médecin volant* (*The Flying Doctor*), both directed by Philippe Adrien. Racine's *Andromaque* is being revived with Geneviève Casile in the part.

Television

Outrage too easy

Mary Whitehouse recently launched an attack upon Broadside (Channel 4) because it was dealing with a subject which displeased her, that of "video nasties" - cassette films of a violent or obscene nature. The fact this was a restrained and quite unsensational criticism of such films seems to have escaped her notice; but, then, moral outrage is notoriously difficult to employ in a useful manner. The makers of last night's programme concentrated upon the level of violence towards women exhibited by such films; it is clearly and unpleasantly there, but video films of this kind are only the most egregious examples of a tendency which exists in any number of contemporary films. *Oscilloscope* and *Psycho 2*, for example, it seems illogical and counter-productive, to ban one and permit the other.

Since the programme was concerned with this problem of censorship, it raised more questions than it was able to solve. If the spectacle of violence is debilitating or damaging, would the censor still allow the depiction of real violence? As one stock of such films suggested, there is as much gruesome detail in a cassette on the Falklands War as there is in *Driller Killer* or *Dead and Burned*. Is there at work here an atrophied puritanism that finds fiction more reprehensible than fact?

Peter Ackroyd

Concert

RPO/Weller

Festival Hall

There were unusual sonorities in Beethoven's *Leonora No 3* on Tuesday night. But it was not so much the occasional imprecisions of the horns that caught the ear, nor the sometimes strident on-stage trumpets; rather it was if the cellos occupying the place of the second bassoon. Presumably an expedient rather than a deliberate experiment, it sounded distinctly odd, since passages which normally offer mere support were given undue prominence, even though the cellist was playing down when exposed. Still, it made a change.

So too did the fresh, exhilarating performance of Bruch's G minor Violin Concerto. It was given by the Taiwanese violinist Cho-Liang Lin, who made his debut here in 1981 after winning first prize in the 1978 Queen Sofia International Competition in Madrid. Still only 23, he is gifted with a remarkable technique; and the tone, though not exactly sweet,

is ample and firmly projected. I thought, when he launched into his evenly-spaced, somewhat unrhaphodic cadenza in the sixth bar, that this was going to be an unyielding interpretation, but in fact it broadened out to one of tasteful rubato and romantic, fiery gestures in the two outer movements, with some finely controlled lines and sensitively shaped figuration in the Adagio.

The orchestra offered robust accompaniment, but came into their own in Vaughan Williams's Fantasy on a Theme by Thomas Tallis and in Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. In the Fantasy the strings caught all the ingenuity and opulence of the complex writing. The Beethoven, on the other hand, showed them at their most muscular, with gloriously blazing brass and some good growling double basses in the finale. Mr Weller's was a fairly brisk reading, laughably structured and with the moments of climax prepared with a sure touch.

Geoffrey Norris

Theatre

Hawaiian Cheese Party

Arts, Cambridge

It goes without saying that, whatever the topics of the centenary Footlights revue, there will be no self-congratulatory round-up of the hoary juveniles who have somehow managed to keep the club in business and revitalise comedy at large. But, with accolades flowing thick and fast over the past few weeks, it is surprising to find the heirs of Jack Buchanan and Peter Cook celebrating their anniversary with a show as relaxed and professionally disinterested as this.

Nothing in it has anything to do with any Hawaiian cheese party, and the only discernible line that runs through the show is keen eye for subjects that have raised a laugh in the past: advertising men, Shakespearean clowns, politically committed folk singers, fox-hunters and crusty old clubland buffers.

In revisiting this familiar territory the company of six have one great strength on their side. They do not dance, and their singing is not up to much, but they do excel in pantomime. Again and again, when a sketch might have died en route to its feeble punchline, it is rescued by the precise physical absurdities that Robert Harley and Neil Mullarkey bring to it as posturing robots or silent comics brutally hauled into the world of speech.

There are some glancing references to the Cambridge past, as in one chunk of mock-medieval featuring a villainous Norman lord of the manor distributing poisoned cheese to all points of the compass. But, even here, what counts most is the resistance of a dancing bishop. And in sketches on Bond films and the Arthurian legends the laughs depend mainly on the choreography of Nicholas Symons's production.

Among the company, the strongest personalities are Morwenna Banks, who slips easily up and down the class scale with no loss of context, and Mr Harley, who gets the evening off to a good start with a game of "Hangman" which, to his rage, the audience wins hands down. Some telling points are made at the expense of a pair of CND singers who nearly come to blows. But, as for gigs, the only one I shall remember is the telephone call made by a man whose finger got stuck in the dial.

Irving Wardle

Faust

Covent Garden

Covent Garden has a habit of running into form during the last part of the season. It did not work that way last year, but this time the old regular pattern is beginning to re-emerge. After an astutely cast *Don Giovanni* ten days ago the Royal Opera House has come up with a *Faust* containing the best all-round team of principals heard so far in this production.

At the helm, as when the

opera was last revived, is Alfredo Kraus in the title role. Kraus sheds his years as easily as Faust himself. The only difference between the two is that Kraus does not pay the supreme penalty, he just goes on singing. And what singing it is. The voice is as crystalline now as it was twenty years ago; it is the servant of its master and Kraus, ever the careful master, knows just how much productivity to demand. His handling of the Act III duet "O nuit d'amour" was a model to be studied by anyone who cares for the art of French singing.



Gino Quilico: outstanding debut as Valentin

Opera

Triumph of French singing belies the years

Earlier a single boo had interrupted "Salut, demeure", improbably, unless it was to inspire the rest of the audience to even greater enthusiasm.

Valerie Masterson too was in her best form in this central act.

Her Marguerite has been heard at the Paris Opéra, but not previously at Covent Garden. It began and ended poorly. Gounod does not exactly help his singers; he keeps poor Marguerite hanging around for the best part of two acts before she utters her couplet "Non, monsieur. Je ne suis demoiselle..." which has to be perfectly gauged if it is to be effective. Miss Masterson muffed this and she did not have the stamina for the final trio.

Elsewhere the performance was finely judged, with Marguerite's thoughts wandering off during the stately verses about the King of Thule. The subsequent Jewel Song might have glittered a bit more, but it has the girlish delight that Gounod wanted (but does not always get) delivered in the easy coloratura Miss Masterson first displayed in *The Pirates of Penzance*. Sullivan knew his Gounod. Marguerite ends up looking a little like Joan of Arc, a victim of male brutality. Valerie Masterson consistently displays her expertise with Gounod heroines, whether they be Mireille, Juliette or Marguerite herself.

Evgeny Nesterenko is easily the best of the Mephisto-

phes who have so far in this production. He is right in the traditional East European approach to the part, which is one of the best moulds going. The model is Christoff, right down to Christoff's eccentric handling of the French language, flamboyant, extrovert and egocentric. And why not? Mephistopheles spends much of the opera drawing attention to himself "Me voila... ma voici". Nesterenko's voice is formidably flexible, cajoling and snarling at will.

Gino Quilico, a young baritone whose progress has been noted on this page, was an outstanding Valentin on his Covent Garden debut; it is not easy, to erase memories of Thomas Allen in this role, but Quilico was out to prove that there is more than one man in the field. And he did so. The only disappointment came from

John Higgins

Sally Burgess, also on her Opera House debut, who came to no sort of terms with Siebel. Heather Begg repeated her fruity Marthe.

The Covent Garden chorus improved on their recent poor showing, especially in Act IV. Charles Duton - yet another house debut - was the refined conductor, taking the sensuous fragrances of the third act very slowly and paying constant attention to the needs of his soloists. He is clearly a fine accompanist, but he should impress his own personality more. John Copley, with a little help from the passing years, has mellowed his original production. It is sure-footed up to the end of Act III but, hindered by the substantial cuts imposed on the opera thereafter, still manages to lose its way when Faust and Marguerite are tugged apart.

John Higgins

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Investment and Finance
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THE BUSINESS TIMES
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STOCK EXCHANGES
FT Index: 714.7 up 4.4
FT Gilt: 82.28 down 0.28

Bargains: 21.440
Fring Hall USM Index: 171.0
 up 0.9
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 8445.45 down 29.85
Hongkong Hang Seng Index: 367.04 down 7.21
New York Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest): 1187.70 down 7.21

CURRENCIES
LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.5700 down 20pts
 index 86.9 up 0.1

 DM 4.03 down 0.0075
 FF 12.1025 down 0.0200
 Yen 73.75 up 2.25

Dollars
 Index 125.6 up 0.1
 DM 2.5568 up 8pts
 Gold \$402.50 up \$1.75

NEW YORK LATEST
 Gold \$403.00
 Sterling \$1.5700

INTEREST RATES
Domestic rates:
 Base rates 10
 3 month interbank 10%
Euro-currency rates:
 3 month dollar 91%
 3 month DM 5%
 3 month Fr F 14%
ECGD Fixed Rate: Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV
 Average reference rate for interest period March 2 to April 5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent.

PRICE CHANGES
Bastion Int. 18x2p
FMC 52px8p
Hambros (C2) £10x2p
T Barthwick 22px2p
B Matthews 161px12p
Atlantic Met 11px1p
LCP 72p-5p
Atlantic Res 44p-3p
Global Nat Res £3.75-75p
Hanimex 33p-2p

TODAY
Interims: Comet, Sidlaw.
Finals: John Besseas Assoc Co's, B Elliott, Elswick-Hopper, Glossop, ST Global Recovery, 600 BPV, Valor.
Economic statistics: Central Government transactions (incl borrowing requirement), provisional figures of vehicle production (May).

POUND ABROAD

	Bank Buys	Bank Sales
Australia \$	1.87	1.78
Austria Sch	29.65	28.00
Belgium Fr	83.75	79.25
Canada \$	2.00	1.92
Denmark Kr	15.07	14.33
Finland Mark	9.14	8.64
France Fr	11.25	12.00
Germany DM	4.42	4.20
Iceland	126.50	125.50
Hongkong \$	12.25	11.64
Ireland P	1.32	1.26
Italy Lira	2485.00	2345.00
Japan Yen	400.00	380.00
Netherlands Gld.	4.71	4.48
Norway Kr	11.90	11.30
Portugal Esc.	169.00	155.00
South Africa Rand	2.16	2.00
Spain Pta	226.00	215.00
Sweden Kr	12.43	11.90
Switzerland Fr	3.40	3.20
USA \$	1.63	1.57
Venezuela Dlr	140.00	132.00

Rates for small denominations bank notes, as quoted by Reuters Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency bureaux.

NOTEBOOK

Britain's financial markets have been buoyant in anticipation of a Conservative victory at the polls. Will the prospect of lower inflation and interest rates keep the pound, shares and Government stocks booming or will it all prove a three week wonder?

Investors Notebook page 23. **Bio-technology** is back in favour in North America, where leading shares have more than doubled in 12 months; here in Britain, there are growing signs of interest but the Government is having to bend its philosophy and take a hand to get things moving. Clive Cookson reports. Feature page 22.

Right up to the Williamsburg summit, EEC countries have been raising protectionist barriers, so that a Common Automobile Policy, followed by a Common Industry Policy could creep up by stealth. Graham Scarjeant argues that this will boomerang against Britain's interests. Economic Notebook page 22.

DECLINED: Safeway, the US supermarket group, yesterday declined to make what would have been the seventh offer for Key Markets stores chain.

Directors of parent company Direct Lovell are recommending shareholders to approve the sale to Linfield.

WALL STREET
Dow slips in heavy trading

New York (AP-Dow Jones) Stocks recovered from early losses in heavy trading yesterday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell three points to 1,191. The initial fall in stocks trimmed the index by nearly eight points before settling in. But declines still led gainers by more than ten-to-three. Volume was about 28 million shares.

General Electric fell 5/8 to 55; General Motors fell 1/4 to 68%; Merck fell 3/4 to 83%; American Telephone and Telegraph fell 1/2 to 63%; Val rose 1/4 to 371/2; Plessey rose 2/8 to 231/2 to 111; Union Carbide fell 11/4 to 67%; and Southern Pacific fell 1/4 to 681/2.

International Business Machines at 1131/2 was up 1/4; Commodore International at 1101/2 was up 31/2; Teledyne at 161 was up 21/2; Texas Instruments at 1651/2 was down 1/2; Colco at 561/2 was up 1/2; Sanders Associates at 100 was off 1/2; Cincinnati Milacron at 351/2 was down 1/2 and Lockheed at 117 was up 1/2.

Chambers Industries fell 25/8 to 56. Yesterday it gained 25/8 after trading as high 591/2, and the company attributed the rise to a favourable recommendation.

Mr Larry Wachtel, first vice president-research at Prudential-Bache Securities, said: "Today's opening drop was pre-ordained by yesterday's close."

"Now it's a question of whether the 1,180 support level holds or if we'll see a further drop that would mean a full correction."

The Bond market has tightened ahead of the Fed's he said. But a "looming and bigger problem is the beginning of a second crisis wave in the international debt picture".

He joined Tilling in 1961, became managing director, and is also a director of Cable & Wireless, Rank and Midland Bank.

Recovery hopes at Unctad

From Dessa Trevisan
Belgrade

M. Jacques de Larosière, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, yesterday introduced an optimistic note at the plenary session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, when he said that the world economy was now at the threshold of recovery.

He reminded all the participants that the essential thing for them was to see that the initial gains were not frustrated away in a new wave of inflation.

Firm and resolute adherence to the strategy designed to foster non-inflationary recovery was necessary and the only approach to revitalise the economy was to get the growth and development going again, he said.

Earlier, Mr Roy Williams, under secretary in the Department of Trade, injected a new idea into the proceedings largely devoted to aid to the developing world by putting the emphasis on private investments. He urged the conference to pay due attention to creating an atmosphere which would encourage private investors.

Mr Williams said that Britain was making efforts to encourage private companies investing in the Third World but this also required effort of developing countries to provide a climate in which foreign investors could have confidence.

On the question of the division between the industrialised nations and the Third World, the Western view at the conference is that the existing international institutions are capable of overcoming the present crisis and dealing with the problems besetting the developing world. The Soviet block has not shown to be particularly involved in the search for concrete solutions.

Brazilian ministers are still debating the conditions on which they should accept assistance from the International Monetary Fund. Announcement of the terms, which are expected to include cuts in subsidies, some price increases, and de-indexing wages, has been delayed.

His salary rise last year in line with inflation was swelled by profit sharing to a 48 per cent rise to £126,000.

Basle accord after Ambrosiano collapse

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

The new code, which sets out responsibility for watching over banks' international operations, replaces the 1975 concordat which was agreed after the failure of a number of leading banks, including the collapse of Herts Bank in 1974.

The new document, however, does not cover lender-of-the-resort responsibilities. Mr Cooke, who stressed the supervisory nature of the Basle Committee.

One key addition to the concordat is the placing of responsibility for supervising intermediate holding companies in banking groups at the door of the supervisor of the parent bank. This is directly aimed at a problem which arose at Banco Ambrosiano where a Luxembourg holding company avoided supervision.

The new concordat, which

Managements to meet after £660m takeover victory

BTR attacks insurance groups for backing Tilling board

By Our Financial Staff

BTR won control of the industrial holding company with acceptances for 58 per cent of the shares. But it will need acceptances for at least a further 32 per cent before it can begin integrating and reorganising the clutch of Tilling businesses.

Later today, he will talk to Mr David Richardson, BTR chairman, and Mr Owen Green, its chief executive. It will be the first meeting of the two managements since BTR launched Britain's biggest takeover

management a second chance, proved to have little effect.

Yesterday afternoon BTR accused other insurance companies of abrogating their responsibilities by sticking with the existing management principle.

According to a BTR spokesman, only two big insurance companies were included in the acceptances BTR's main support, apart from the 28 per cent it bought for itself in the market, came from pension funds.

Mr James Findlay, Prudential

investmet manager, confirmed that it did not accept the bid with its 21/2 per cent.

Last night investors were rushing to buy Tilling shares, sending the price up 11p to 237p. That is about 6p below the value placed on them under the terms of the BTR 11-for-20 share swap as BTR shares surged 14p to 44p by the close.

Combined sales of the two groups will approach £3bn. Last year BTR's pretax profits were £106.7m while Tilling made £24.3m.

City Comment

A healthy queue in the City

Perhaps the most encouraging feature of the present stock market boom is that companies are taking the opportunity to raise large amounts of cash by rights issues. Indeed, the normal rights issue queue maintained informally by the Bank of England is now pretty full for three months. London & Northern has cited this as one of the main reasons for completing what might have been a controversial deal to buy the majority stake in United Medical Enterprises from the British Technology Group just two days before the election. If it had delayed completion it might have had to go right to the back of the queue again.

In past booms, companies have been too nervous of offending influential stockbrokers' analysts who might downgrade their company's status because a substantial share issue dilutes net profit per share.

Ironically, there was a rights issue boom in 1975, when company liquidity was at crisis point and stock market prices were just recovering from their worst pasting in postwar history. This broke the mould of analysts' thinking, even though it was a poor time to raise money.

Today, the situation is quite different. Company liquidity is in good shape after the shake-outs of the past four years. So groups like GKN, Laporte and London & Northern are raising money for genuine expansion, either in advance of the need for more working capital as business turns up or, for acquisitions.

Today, the main problem is the capacity of the big city institutions to underwrite so much new equity capital. They are mainly stretched because of the succession of massive takeover bids culminating in UDS and Thomas Tilling.

Institutions were naturally nervous of filling their books too full during the uncertainty of an election. It was notable that Trafalgar House made its first bid for P & O without a cash alternative that would need underwriting, though there were other reasons for this.

Today's election will likely remove most of these doubts. But if Mrs Thatcher is returned, there will be another batch of privatisation issues for the underwriters to absorb.

Cornhill 'not for sale'

Cornhill Insurance, which Thomas Tilling had said it would sell for at least £150m, will not be disposed of, BTR said shortly after gaining control of Tilling.

Allianz Versicherungen, the German insurance group, had earlier in the day said that it was interested in buying Cornhill. Tilling had indicated that the Munich-based group was one of four front runners being considered as a possible buyer for Cornhill.

However, a spokesman for Allianz denied comments attributed to the company's finance director, Herr Marcus Bierlich, that it would sell its 29 per cent stake in Eagle Star.

"His comments have been misinterpreted," the company said. "We have no present intention of selling our stake in Eagle Star. The purchase of Cornhill is still only a possibility."

Market sources said that BTR may at a later date carry through Tilling's plan to sell off Cornhill in 1983 and beyond. However, people describe him as a "hard-driving man".



Spartan at the top

that tends to be the description of those who have recently watched him from close by.

His headquarters staff appear to be almost as spartan as the outward appearance of their accommodation: just 70 of them control 25,000 employees.

In short, nothing glints from Silvertown - not even the management style of Mr Owen Green, the BTR chief executive.

Although people describe him as a "hard-driving man",

P & O will answer Trafalgar queries

By Our Financial Staff

Shareholders in P & O have been promised answers at today's annual meeting to a series of questions about the group's performance contained in a letter from Mr Nigel Brookes, chairman of Trafalgar, to Lord Inchape, chairman of P & O.

Trafalgar has bid about £290m for P & O, which is being bitterly resisted. Lord Inchape will, today, devote most of his speech to countering Trafalgar's questions. But he will not give a profits forecast or asset revaluation.

A formal defence document will be despatched after the meeting, but profit forecasts and asset values will be held back in the expectation that Trafalgar will raise its bid.

Mr Oliver Brooks, P & O's managing director said: "We will be dealing with them tomorrow, but I do not think he will get the answers he wants."

Mr Brookes warns Lord Inchape in the letter, that its record of ship registration of ships compares well with that of P & O.

Trafalgar has also pointed out that more of its ships were involved in the Falklands conflict than those of P & O and that its record of British registration of ships compares well with that of P & O.

Shareholders should also ask why, they should continue to invest in a company which has provided nothing but "decline and disappointment," says Mr Brooks.

The Fraser board plainly felt that the thousands of small shareholders in the company would back the board, making it impossible for Lonrho to get this majority, although Lonrho might be able to command more than 50 per cent of the shareholdings.

Lonrho's threat would be difficult but not impossible to implement: City sources said last night. But they felt that the simple fact that Lonrho might be prepared to go to this length would be enough to dissuade the Fraser board from pressing for a head count.</

Westland doubles earnings

By John Lawless

Even the arrival of three rival Bristol helicopters yesterday could not dampen the spirits of Sir David Arlington, the Westland chairman.

The helicopters ferried the press corps to the Isle of Wight base of British Hovercraft for a visit by Mrs Thatcher as he reported almost double post tax group profits. They were up to £9.02m from £4.84m at the same time last year.

The Tory leader's party, Lord Arlington could have argued, should have arrived on a British hovercraft - for his report said that the initial AP1-88 hovercraft started schedule service with Hovertravel on the Solent on March 8.

The hovercraft division however, made a small operating loss of £18,000 on sales this year of £4.86m, but only because orders have been delivered, while development costs continue.

Its main business, however, made an £11m operating profit on 1983 helicopter sales of £11m, against £2.4m on £71.5m last time.

Orders for Lynx and Sea-King helicopters from the Ministry of Defence have been better than promised last July, while the commitments of the British and Italian Governments to the EH101 programme "seems no longer in doubt". There will, however, probably be another six months before the red tape of both countries releases full development funds.

Lord Arlington added: "While the group's net cash position has recently been fluctuating between credit and overdraft, we foresee an increase in business, some of it with conditions of payment different from the past, which will require increased borrowing, part of it hard-core and on a long-term basis."

Thus, Westland expects to issue floating stock secured by a floating charge, and steps are being taken to convert the existing 7.75 per cent unsecured loan stock into a 7.75 per cent debenture for the same term.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Sandy McLachlan

Pound set on upward course

When Mrs Thatcher submitted to the test of the electorate four years ago, on May 3, 1979, the pound's average value on its currency basket index was, at 86.3, within 1 percentage point of today.

For 20 months it did not look back, soaring by 20 per cent before plunging to its low in March, only to rebound in the last couple of months to present levels.

Does one remarkable coincidence herald another? There are those in the City who predict that within a few weeks of today's expected Conservative election victory sterling will be topping £1.60 as investors, especially those overseas, pile into Government stocks.

They argue that not only will the pound survive profit-taking immediately after the victory is confirmed, but will gain new strength as more cautious investors, unwilling to commit funds before the result was known, decide to plump for gilt.

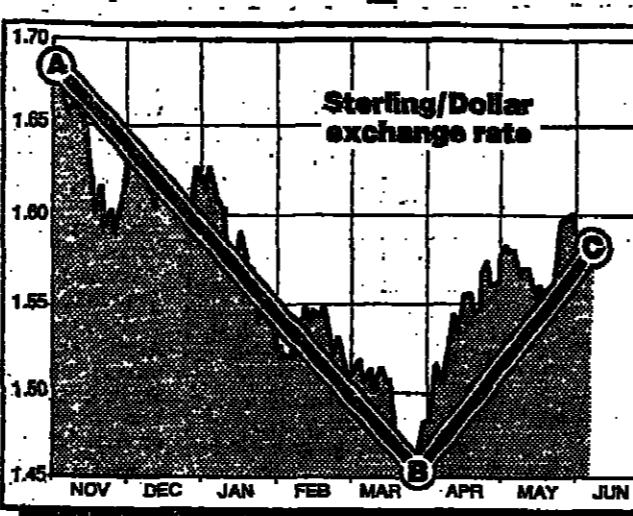
Sterling certainly has a lot going for it. Interest rates are high by European standards, oil prices have firmed and the risk of substantial weakening has receded, while Mrs Thatcher's commitment to "firm" money policies to curb inflation inspires confidence, especially abroad.

Gilts, too, are generally expected to make further gains after the election, despite fears

● Henry Wigfall and Son, the Sheffield-based electrical retail and rental chain, achieved a big reduction in losses in the year to March 28, 1983.

Turnover slipped to £40.58m, against £42.41m in 1981-82, which reflects the reorganization and rationalization of outlets during the year. Trading profit totalled £21.07m and after allowing for reorganization costs of £2.21m, as well as interest charges cut from £2.34m to £1.32m, the net loss, before tax, has been reduced to £677,000, compared with last year's deficit of £3.72m. But, for the second year running, there is no ordinary dividend.

Wigfall's board notes that the year's results are very much in line with the expectations expressed at



in some quarters that the Government plans to tighten policies to dampen excessive monetary growth and public spending. These fears can probably be discounted.

The strength of sterling means that interest rates are much more likely to come down - go up.

At the same time, the continuing competitive squeeze on companies exerted by the high pound will maintain the downward pressure on inflation. The prospect of lower interest rates combined with lower inflation in the longer run must be good for gilts.

Several brokers are predicting cuts in bank base rates of between 1 to 2 percentage

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

the half-way stage. The reorganization carried out during the year is responsible for a substantial proportion of the improvement and this programme is continuing in the current year.

T R North America Investment Trust Year to 31.3.83 Total income, £2.92m (£2.22m). Stated earnings, 3.81p (3.39p). Net dividend, 3.25p (3.125p).

City of Dublin Bank (Figures in Irish currency) Half-year to 31.3.83. Pre-tax profit, £547,000 (2421,000).

points over the summer, in the confident expectation that the pound will remain buoyant. The future course of United States interest rates remains a cloud on the horizon for both sterling and gilts. But the general feeling is that the US authorities will not wish to see any significant rise in rates, which would dampen recovery at home.

A Conservative victory is therefore bound to make sterling stronger, and the higher the margin of seats achieved by Mrs Thatcher the better the pound is likely to perform against both the dollar and the basket of currencies which produces the weighted average. That will therefore be good

Over relatively short periods such analyses are bound to be coloured by high leading company results in individual sectors. But the fairly inevitable conclusion is that the equity market is going to become relatively less attractive particularly since it is already discounting so much.

Amec Year to 31.12.82. Pre-tax profit, £17.8m (£13.4m). Stated earnings, 2.64p (2.18p). Turnover, £225.5m (£245.8m). Net dividend, 9.0p (5.5p).

Bulmer & Lamb (Holdings) Year to 30.3.83. Pre-tax profit, £15,000 (£572,000). Stated earnings, 2.04p (5.54p). Turnover, £29.82m (£27.38m). Net dividend, 3.82p (3.82p).

Airflow Streamlines Year to 28.2.83. Pre-tax profit, £432,000 (£89,000). Stated earnings, (fully diluted) 2.38p (1.6p). Turnover, £22.41m (£19.11m). Net dividend, 0.75p (0.25p).

James Burrough Year to 28.2.83. Pre-tax profit, £5.06m (£3.52m). Stated earnings, 18.1p (13.7p). Turnover, £46.1m (£38.57m). Net dividend, 8.0p (5.7p).

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Prices in pounds per metric ton Silver in pence per Troy ounce Yesterday's Close Oct Dec Mar March 1983-70 1088.50-87 Seller: 35 lots.

Three month 1026.20-21 Seller: 35 lots.

Three month 1013.50-52 Seller: 35 lots.

Three month 1009.50-51 Seller: 35 lots.

Three month 1006.50-50 Seller: 35 lots.

Three month 1003.50-52 Seller: 35 lots.

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Three month 907.50-50 Seller:

WALL STREET

CSX merger could start bidding war

New York (NYT). - In a move that could touch off a bidding war, the CSX Corporation, the United States' biggest railroad company, announced on Tuesday that it had agreed to merge with the Texas Gas and Resources Corporation in a cash and stock deal approaching \$984m (£625m).

Only 40 hours earlier, the ping-pong Corporation made a surprise takeover bid for Texas Gas, offering to pay \$45 a share, prompting the company to speed up merger talks with CSX.

Terms of the CSX deal provide for payment of \$52 a share to Texas Gas shareholders for the first 35 per cent of the outstanding stock. CSX reserved the right to raise its purchases to 51 per cent, also at \$32 a share. The two companies would then merge, with Texas Gas stockholders swapping each of their remaining shares for 0.684 of a CSX share. This would give the deal an average value of 48.57 a share for the two-step merger plan, making the CSX deal worth \$984m in cash and stock.

CRICKET

Somerset stung by Stovold's inspired stand

By Peter Marson

Bristol Somerset with seven first innings wickets in hand, are 352 runs behind Gloucestershire. Stovold's inspired stand of 84, made in 78 minutes, lay the centre of an emotional scene at day for Gloucestershire's batsmen yesterday, and when they had their fill, Stephenson and Shepherd came to make Somerset's discomfiture complete.

The World Cup and an injury to Rose, the captain, combined to deprive Somerset of their five international cricketers, and that meant the traditional rivalry between the two would be a fraction less spicy, it seemed, also that Gloucestershire's batsmen yesterday, and when they had their fill, Stephenson and Shepherd came to make Somerset's discomfiture complete.

Gloucestershire won the toss and chose to bat. With some orators along other fronts enjoying a bonanza in bated breath just now, it was reassuring and refreshing to mark a compelling lecture delivered by Andy Stovold.

After five innings in the county championship, sponsored by Schawbages, in which he hit two hundreds, Stovold has now scored 542 runs for an average of 108.40.

His success is borne of confidence in a sound, well-tried policy wherein the bat meets the ball in a solid, meaningful way before depositing it in the ether regions beyond the boundaries. Even Somerset's lucid, fluent style, although when the time comes for him to receive the award of a hundred, Alan Wells, Somerset's acting captain, and the rest must have felt greater pleasure seeing him fall. A stirring stint had ended.

Elsewhere it was mourning for the 15 resounding strokes to the

Young bloods with a chance

By Peter Ball

HOPE Kent, with nine first innings wickets in hand, are 277 runs behind Sussex.

At tea yesterday a parachute jump by the Royal Marines provided a most unusual feature in an otherwise normal day at Hove. In the morning the hint of green in the water and the famous 'sea fire' made being a different business. By mid afternoon the sun had established itself and so had the batsmen, Alan Wells and Parker restoring the balance with a fifth wicket partnership of 106.

In the evening the bowlers recovered their grip.

Wells, who achieved his highest score in first class cricket, hit 92 containing 14 fours, played with considerable poise and controlled aggression. His partner, the skipper, hitting strongly to leg and playing seam and spin with equal assurance. Parker was less fluent but he fought hard and, as always, there were elegant off shots in his innings.

Their stand restored Sussex's humour from a difficult morning and it was improved still further as Greg Johnson Wells taking a third wicket in the innings when the batsmen were rendered virtually scoreless by Ellison and Bartlett meant they could not reach a fourth batting point and in the attempt batted bold.

That opened the way to the tail and Bartlett took three for one in five balls to give Kent a satisfactory start and the tail then began to roll with the retirement of the acting captain, Johnson, won the toss. With Dilley, Taverne, Woolmer and Dowdall all absent, the opportunity was there for Kent's young bloods to distinguish themselves and almost without exception they took it.

Baptiste, who finished with a commendable five for 45 and Ellison bowled with admirable accuracy on a wicket which offered just enough movement to be exploited.

SUSSEX First Innings

G J Wells & P Parker
B C Broad & J D Davis
A M Groom & P Farbrace & L Lloyd
P W Robinson & D Davis
R J Finner & D J Davis
D A Groom & P Farbrace
F D Russell not out
J R Tavarne & D Dilley
T C Stephenson & S J Shepherd
J R Hancox not out
Extras (0-4) 16

Total (8 wkt, 91.4 overs) 378

207 207 207 207 207 207 207 207

BOWLING: Wells 14-8-4-1; Broad 15-2-2-2; Dilley 14-5-5-1; Lloyd 9-3-3-1; Stephenson 1-0; Hancox 1-0; Shepherd 1-0; Russell not out.

Total (3 wkt, 12.3 overs) 23

17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17

J W Dennis, J W Loyola, N M Popplewell, G V Tavarne & D Dilley, M R Davis, P H E Wilson to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-11, 3-22.

Bonus points (to date): Gloucestershire 5, Somerset 3.

Umpires: E Alley and J D Morley.

Brothers pick up a century apiece

Hampshire's Smith brothers, Chris and Robin, both made maximum at Southampton yesterday. Robin, aged 18 on his championship debut, as Hampshire scored 357 for three against Lancashire.

Chris, aged 24 and the elder of the South African-born brothers, hit his third century of the season, putting on 158 in 64 overs for the first wicket with Paul Terry. The elder Smith, who recently qualified for England, hit 14 fours in a stay of 246 minutes before leaving the way clear for his brother, who was playing because Marshall and Jeary are on tour.

Both brothers hit centuries, and the rest must have felt greater pleasure seeing them fall. A stirring stint had ended.

Elsewhere it was mourning for the

15 resounding strokes to the

bat.

With some orators along other fronts enjoying a bonanza in bated breath just now, it was reassuring and refreshing to mark a compelling lecture delivered by Andy Stovold.

After five innings in the county

championship, sponsored by Schawbages, in which he hit two

hundreds, Stovold has now scored 542 runs for an average of 108.40.

His success is borne of confidence in a sound, well-tried policy wherein the bat meets the ball in a solid, meaningful way before depositing it in the ether regions beyond the boundaries. Even Somerset's lucid, fluent style, although when the time comes for him to receive the award of a hundred, Alan Wells, Somerset's acting captain, and the rest must have felt greater pleasure seeing him fall. A stirring stint had ended.

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The South African issue

Non-whites who oppose the political gambit of sporting isolation

DAVID MILLER

Frank van der Horst is a civil engineer living in a comfortable house with a superb view on the side of a hill in a Coloured residential area overlooking Cape Town. If his detached pink-washed villa is any indication, he is professionally most successful. As president of SACOS with its links with UNCAS and its seemingly ample funding, van der Horst is probably at this moment the single most influential man in the tortured world of sports politics after the IOC president, Juan Samaranch of Spain, and it is difficult not to be impressed with his limitless range of rhetoric and inventive against the South African National Government's regime.

His connections are seemingly as much with union and religious movements as with sport, and like Sam Ramamany, the London-based chairman of SANROC, and author of *Apartheid, the Real Hurrah*, he can cite countless incidents of prejudice, discrimination and even harassment against non-white sportsmen.

He is an alert, nervous man, with dark, darting eyes. Just how sensitive the situation is became apparent when the first thing he did upon my arrival, was to ask the man with me to leave his house. It was not clear whether this was because the man with me was from SONGA, and therefore theoretically hostile, or because he looked African while being, in fact, Coloured. The social prejudice between Asian and black African - as in Guyana, Uganda and elsewhere - is almost as marked as between white and black, the most revealing fact for the foreign visitor is that Coloureds, many of whom are successful entrepreneurs, do not want one-man-one-vote, for they would be swamped six to one by the Africans.

Van der Horst's case for maintaining the isolation of South African sport is unrelenting. On the following grounds: that the non-white is harassed by the laws; by malnutrition and lack of work; that the sportsman has no choice from school onwards; that opportunities in all social spheres are limited by inferior education syllabus and facilities; that university entry is restricted; that independent states (not internationally recognized) Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, Transkei, Venda (each with own government); Homeland (Africa); Gauzankulu, KwaZulu, Lebowa, Ciskei, South Ndebele.

who attend the Craven rugby coaching week, or who go to watch multi-racial sport, suggests otherwise.

The level of SACOS's influence, and its true support among the majority of blacks and even some Coloureds, is questioned by other leaders in both non-white groups. Cyril Gobodo, the black general manager of the 95 per cent black National Professional Soccer League - who lives in the smarter double garage area of Soweto where 60 per cent of homes possess a car - claims SACOS is very narrow-sighted, and does not accord the same freedom it demands. They are hypocrites. Howa's son goes to a mixed university, where he needs a permit. SACOS has a very insignificant role in our domestic sport. They are not affiliated in soccer to the non-racial governing body, therefore, they cannot speak for the major sport of black South Africa."

Yet it is on the SACOS slogan, "No Normal Sport in an Abnormal Society," that Kubon is most revealing. "This is a fatalistic viewpoint, there is no excuse for inaction. We identify with Africa and the African Soccer Federation as our door to international competition. We are not saying because the situation here is abnormal we are

totally disinterested; that present sporting integration is primarily at the top, and not grass roots; that trade union harassment is now worse; that Goch and other visiting sportsmen are no better than mercenaries to Angola; that local council rents have been increased up to 20 times for sports fields without changing rooms or toilets; that SACOS will not accept the principle of integrated domestic and international sport until the non-white "gets the same pay for the same job and can live in the same house".

Hassan Howa, van der Horst's predecessor, is a gentle man who lives with his family of grown-up children in another Coloured district of Cape Town. He is less overtly militant, and nowadays, though clearly sincere, appears somewhat muddled. He badly undermined his case by attempting to suggest in a television interview with John Carlisle on the MCC tour issue, that the Coloured rugby player, Tobias had had a successful game at Arms Park because the Welsh defenders had not "bothered" to mark a coloured player.

Yet the force of Howa's logic is no less persuasive than van der Horst's: that there is no cause at present to change an effective system of boycott, "our only weapon"; that the non-white community should not accept the rapid advance of

YACHTING

Americans sail into contention

By John Nicholls

Lighter conditions brought some new crews into the reckoning for the championship after the third race of the 470 World Series at Weymouth yesterday. Peter Melvin and Kevin Burnham were the first United States crew to show what they can do, winning by a wide margin from the von Kroskay brothers, of Finland.

David Ullman made the Americans assault look even more formidable when he led for the first round, but he then retired after learning that he was one of five helmsmen disqualified for a premature start.

The six British boats collectively had for their best day, with one of them being among the prize winners for the third time running. Unfortunately, it has not been the same boat each time; they are all extremely erratic. Yesterday Jenny Bickerton and Derek Ness took fifth place, yet in the previous race had now been placed in the first six in each race.

On the previous points leaders, David Barnes (New Zealand) finished tenth and remains first on points, with Wolfgang Hunger (West Germany) his closest rival. Hunger was eighth yesterday and has now been placed in the first six in each race.

P. Marin (US), P. von Kroskay (Fin), V. Schwedler (Fin), J. Bickerton (GBR), D. Ness (GBR), M. Homan (NZL), D. Ullman (US), M. Barnes (NZL)

doing nothing about it. The English-based '82 soccer tour aborted because we hadn't ensured a solidarity of sentiment, or that the players such as Ardiles were properly briefed, or that the tour was coaching-oriented.

Ramsey, van der Horst and Howa may well be wrong in supposing they speak for a majority of non-white opinion in opposing foreign tours. A Coloured teaching inspector, who has several white professional subordinates, and whom I was able to spend an evening freely talking to in the home of a Coloured non-racial sports administrator, said: "The West Indians cricket tour was a breakthrough for us. They were fighting our case, never mind the money. Every black sportsman who excels, anywhere in the world, enhances our status. We have so many more Lawrence Rowes here in South Africa, waiting for the chance to emerge. The moderate non-white in South Africa at this moment in time still needs the whites expertise. SACOS cannot give up that, they are a very small factor. We, the non-whites, cannot go for all or nothing. South Africa can be world beater at everything, if we work in harmony with the whites."

Janus Pamenky, who succeeded the Coloured Rashid Varachia as president of the non-racial cricket governing body, echoes this. "If Howa could pull a lever now, and prevent all sporting integration, he would be doing a disservice to the players he supposedly represents, because he would deny them facilities. There are examples where he has refused better facilities because he is better politically, to maintain the difference. We are saying the changes which have taken place demonstrate to our government that sport can be integrated from the bottom up, excluding sport from the laws.

Howa claims SACOS is non-racial, but they have no blacks, and no white members.

"We in South Africa cannot have all stick and no carrot. The international countries were warned in '81 that we had a certain amount of money, that either national associations could share it - and they need it - with their players by coming here officially, if not the players would get it all in unofficial tours. We still want to come through the front door. We can claim total freedom from government with more autonomy than any of the other seven International Cricket Conference Countries, including England."

Abe Williams is a Coloured headmaster who sends his own children to a mixed school, and was assistant manager of the '81 Springbok Rugby tour to New Zealand. He says: "I'm called a 'sell-out' every day, but every controversial situation throughout the world is a compromise, the Middle East, the cold war. We can't afford to lose the white man's enterprise and know-how, but how many blacks are honest enough to admit this? There will be no further rapid development without motivation."

The IOC alone can probably supply that motivation, yet Freddie Williams, who could reach the Los Angeles 800 metres final, has a white coach and an anonymous white sponsor, and is as integrated in his sport as Daley Thompson, will not be there. Rudolph Opperman, president of SAON-GA, says: "The road back is through the IOC, and to them via Africa. But, for the moment, nobody will come to see for themselves the truth here, because they don't want trouble." Summing that trouble will probably only help lead to a kind infinitely more fearful.

GOFL

Ban makes Mrs Hast join professional ranks

By John Hennessy, GOFL Correspondent

Thanks to the Ladies' Golf Union (LGU), the Women's Professional (WP) Association have acquired a valuable new recruit. She is Sue Hast, one of six South Africans who have been repudiated by the LGU and denied entry to the amateur championship this week at Silloth.

Unlike her five compatriots, Mrs Hast has heavily committed herself to Europe, financially and socially, when the LGU took fright. With her husband's encouragement, she therefore decided to come to Britain anyway.

Her heart had been so set on it that she had been prepared to cede for a friend, Maria Figueras-Dotti, of Spain, when she could not find amateur tournaments that would accept her. Yesterday her thoughts crystallized into a recognition of the fact that professionalism was the only way forward. "Where do I go from here?" she asked herself. "There's not much future in South African amateur golf."

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Where, in fact, she went to sunny Worthing, with a cheque for £100 or so to cover her membership of the WPGA and entries for three tournaments.

Within an hour or so, she was recording an early professional record on the second tee this year, sold to the United Friends Insurance hole tournament. Her first hole of preparation took its inevitable toll, as she had to play for three weeks, was totally unfamiliar with the course and had to judge distance by sight. In the circumstances, she

US tour rules out Ballesteros

Harrison, New York (AP) - A request by Severiano Ballesteros for the minimum-appearance rule to be waived so that he could play on the U.S. tour has been turned down by the Professional Golfers Association (PGA) commission, Dean Benoit.

Ballesteros, who won the Masters last year, has remained first on points with Wolfgang Hunger (West Germany) his closest rival. Hunger was eighth yesterday and has now been placed in the first six in each race.

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THE TIMES THURSDAY JUNE 9 1983

RACING: PROSPECTS AT NEWBURY: PROBLEMS FOR ROYAL ASCOT

Coughing affects 60 in Hern stable

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Coughing looks like disrupting Dick Hern's plans seriously in the near future. After watching Orizo run away with the Hornings Stakes on Newbury yesterday, the master of West Ilsley said that the number affected there had risen from 20 on Saturday to 60 out of a total of 90.

As a result his team for Royal Ascot next week has dwindled to only three. Yesterday's winner, who has a choice of three engagements (the Jersey Stakes, St James's Palace Stakes or the Queen Anne Stakes); Little Wolf (Gold Cup); and Castle Rising (King Edward VII Stakes) - always assuming that they do not succumb in the meantime. Coryn and Schaus are now among those affected, as they are obviously *far from combat* for the time being.

Marshall, it appears to be a mild virus, and Hern is hoping that they will be all right after about 10 days. Air Disgusto, who is due to run in the French Oaks at Chantilly on Sunday, is others who are currently in the clear.

Oxo, carrying the colours associated with the Derby winner Henbit, was easily in a good time and clearly he has gone on the right way since he finished second to his stablemate in the Middle Park Stakes.

Henry Cecil, the trainer of Diego, told me that he has decided to give him more time to get over the problems that have affected him this season and that he will now miss the St James's Palace Stakes.

Diego, who is due to run in the George Smith Memorial Handicap, carrying a 7lb penalty,

must be given a chance to recover before the time being.

Maninister's courageous victory in the George Smith Memorial

Handicap, leaving Densis on the

sidelines waiting for something like the Sussex Stakes at Goodwood.

Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin, the country's leading owner under National Hunt rules for the past two seasons, will be a force to be reckoned with on the Flat if his involvement continues as well as it began yesterday, when Follow Me whizzed away with the Ilsley Maiden Stakes in the hands of Lester Piggott.

Follow Me follows the first runner that the Sheikh has bred on his stud in Sonnenet, and this could hardly have been a better start to his racing career. Having missed the break from the stalls, she is not remotely inconvenienced, going through her field as only a good filly could have done, to win by four lengths with Piggott sitting motionless.

Geoff Lewis, another trainer on a crest, won the Berkshire Stakes, the other race for two-year-olds, with Turn And Fly but only after a ding-dong battle with Rex Lake and Milord. It will be interesting to see how Turn And Fly takes this hard race because he gave a lifelike imitation of a nervous wreck in the paddock before the race, and in the royal stew in the unsaddling enclosure afterwards. It could just possibly have been the undoing of him. However, provided that all is well, he will be seen at Ascot on Saturday week.



Weaver's Pin wins the Guinness Handicap from Voyant (centre) and Brevet

Beverley

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The second post will involve working together with administrative and other professional colleagues, on reviewing and monitoring regional strategic plans, consideration of resource allocations, submissions for capital developments and closure of hospitals. The work will require

close liaison with NHS management in the Regions and Districts concerned.

Candidates must be medical practitioners fully registered in the UK and should preferably have for the first post, experience in NHS management; for the second post, extensive NHS experience and, in particular, management experience.

For further information about these appointments, telephone Dr. Alison Smithies on 01-407 5322 ext 6880.

For an application form (to be returned by 1 July 1983) write to Civil Service Commission, Annex Link, Basildon, Herts, RG21 1TB, or telephone Basildon (0261) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: S/0003/3.

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NOTES, REMARKS, ETC. **MEMORIALS** **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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NOTHING CONCERNING MARRIAGES, WEDDINGS, ETC., ON COURT AND SOCIETY PAGES, OR ANNOUNCEMENTS ON SOCIAL PAGES, CAN NOT BE ACCEPTED BY TELEPHONE.

FOR MANY are called, but few are chosen. St. Matthew 22: 14.

BIRTHS

APCOOK - On June 7th at St. Thomas Hospital, Wimborne, to Mavis and Andrew - a daughter.
BOBBY - On June 7th at St. Carolyn French Park and Michael Doherty on June 1st, 1983, a daughter.
DOVER - On 30th May, at Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead, a son, Linden James.
DUNN - On June 8th, at Peterborough Hospital, Tunderbridge Road, to Margaret and Richard Dunn - a son, Christopher.
HAMILTON - On June 7th at Linda Rose Hospital, Horsham, to Linda and Neil - a daughter, a sister for Michael.
MUNDY - On June 7, 1983, to Vivian Lang and Neil - a daughter, a sister for Michael.
MUSSETT - On 29th May at Adderbury, Oxfordshire, to Michael and a son (David) Henry Duncan.
PARRY - On May 26, to Emma Jane (nee Pugh), daughter of Sophie Lourie.
STRATTON - On June 4th at St. Francis Hospital, Wimborne, to Luisa and Peter - a son and a daughter.
THURMAN - On 6th June to Jacobs (nee Pennington) and Rod - a son, Mark.
YESHIN - On May 31st to Sally (nee Paul Andrew).

MARRIAGES

PHILLIPS - **MOXLEY** - On June 4th at St. Michael's Church, Chester-le-Street, to Michael Phillips and Major & Mrs. Joan Phillips and Carol and Michael Phillips and Mrs. Morris and Mr. Jacqueline Phillips.

SIMONTON - **ALLER** - On June 3, 1983 in New York, Peter, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Simonton and Mrs. Monte Elmer, and Paulette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Neil Cooper, Florida, New York.

DEATHS

ALLEYN - On 8th June, peacefully at home, dear husband of Mabel and Richard Reuelin Mace at St. Peter's Hospital, Wimborne, Dorset, on Wednesday 15th June at 3.00 pm. No flowers, please. Cremation arrangements to be made.

BAPTIST - On June 8th, peacefully in Torbay Hospital, after a short illness. Tim (Wimborne) and his wife, Diane, and their son, Timothy and Paula. Cremation arrangements to be made.

BEATTY - On June 6, peacefully at his home, Wetherby, West Yorkshire, and Richard and his beloved husband of Helen, much loved late wife of Alan Campbell, late of Matlock, Derbyshire, Broomfield, and Patricia & Joan. Funeral service in Peasey Chapel, Matlock, Derbyshire, on June 13 at 1.30 pm to which all friends are welcome.

CARSTENSEN - On June 6, 1983 Dorothy Helen (nee Tidmarsh) widow of John and Richard Carstensen, Southgate Parish Church tomorrow.

Funeral service to be held at 1.30 pm followed by private cremation. No friends or family to be invited to the Guide for Funerals, 100 Grosvenor Street, London SW1.

COLLINS - On June 6, 1983, peacefully at his horse, Little Charlie, Mrs. Charles Collins, C.B.E., aged 75 years dear husband of Lady Dorothy and Sir Michael Collins, of the Southgate Parish Church tomorrow.

Funeral service to be held at 1.30 pm followed by private cremation. No friends or family to be invited to the Guide for Funerals, 100 Grosvenor Street, London SW1.

DEAN - On June 8th, 1983, Francis Harry Dean, formerly of the Order of St John of Jerusalem, aged 80, died at his home, and mother and friend of Francis Mary and her son, Michael, funeral service at Trinity Church, Wimborne, Dorset, on Monday June 20th at 11.30 am when conducted by colleagues from NAMF. Visiting hours 10.00 am to 12.00 noon and other arrangements. No friends or family to be invited to the Guide for Funerals, 100 Grosvenor Street, London SW1.

FRISTON - On the 7 June, peacefully at Little Egerton, Chadderton, Lancashire, England, Mr. and Mrs. John Fiston, M.B.E., three Reynolds of Mayfield, and Mrs. John Fiston, funeral service at 1.00 pm Saturday June 10th at 1.30 pm. Friends and family are invited.

HOBSON - On June 7th, 1983, peacefully at home, Le Neve Cheshire, St. Saviour's Church, Alrewas beloved wife of John and father of Sarah and Lydia. Funeral service at St. Saviour's Church, Alrewas, Cheshire, on Friday June 10th at 1.30 pm. Friends and family are invited.

HOPKINS - On June 3rd, Arthur of Mapleton House, Four Elms, Elmers End, Kent, much loved son of David and Jean, and father of Patricia Hopkins, died suddenly in his sleep. Funeral service at the Downe Crematorium, Sevenoaks, Kent, on June 14th at 12.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to 4/6 Montereys Road, Sevenoaks.

LAWRY - On 6th June, 1983, and Penzance, Max of St. John's, Penzance, Cornwall, died suddenly in his sleep. Funeral service at the Downe Crematorium, Sevenoaks, Kent, on June 14th at 12.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to 4/6 Montereys Road, Sevenoaks.

MACKINNON - On June 7th, 1983, Mrs. Eileen Daniel of Langside, Glasgow, died suddenly in her sleep. Funeral service at the Downe Crematorium, Sevenoaks, Kent, on June 14th at 12.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to 4/6 Montereys Road, Sevenoaks.

MALLETT - On June 7th, 1983, Kianca Doreen. Restaven mass at St. John's, Wimborne, Dorset, on Monday June 12th at 1.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to 4/6 Montereys Road, Sevenoaks.

READMAN - On 7th June, 1983, Norman, dear son of Austin, Perthshire, Norman, died suddenly in his sleep. Funeral service at St. John's, Wimborne, Dorset, on Friday June 10th at 1.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to 4/6 Montereys Road, Sevenoaks.

RICHARDSON - On June 7th, 1983, suddenly in Hove, Eric, dearly loved son of Eric and Shirley. Funeral service at the Downe Crematorium, Sevenoaks, Kent, on June 14th at 12.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to 4/6 Montereys Road, Sevenoaks.

ROGERS - On June 9th, 1983, after a long illness, Helen Edith McManus, dear wife of Alan and Mrs. Rogers of Lancaster.

STANLEY-CARTER - On June 7th, 1983, after a short illness, in Cavan, Ireland, James Frederick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Carter of Cavan, Ireland, died suddenly in his sleep. Funeral service at the Downe Crematorium, Sevenoaks, Kent, on June 14th at 12.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to 4/6 Montereys Road, Sevenoaks.

VAN DER BYL - Peacefully on Sunday 5th June 1983, Mrs. Joy Clare, wife of Mr. P. G. van der Byl of Fairfield, Lancashire, England, died suddenly.

WHALLEY - Prof. Arthur George Whalley, Queen's University, Belfast, Northern Ireland, died suddenly in his sleep after a long illness. Dear son of Maurice and Mrs. Whalley of Belfast.

WILSON - On June 7th, 1983, after a long illness, Mrs. Dorothy Wilson, widow of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson of St. John's, Wimborne, Dorset, died suddenly in her sleep. Funeral service at the Downe Crematorium, Sevenoaks, Kent, on June 14th at 12.30 pm. Flowers may be sent to 4/6 Montereys Road, Sevenoaks.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

PERINSON, DEECK JOHN Memorial service at St. John's, Wimborne, Dorset, on Friday 16th June 1983 at 12.00 noon.

MEAD, MAURICE JAMES In happy remembrance. Diana.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS**ARTHROSIS:
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22/23 July

25/26 July

28/29 July

31/32 July

1/2 August

4/5 August

7/8 August

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1/2 January

4/5 January

7/8 January

In the last of a series of interviews with the four party leaders, Julian Haviland, Political Editor, talks to Roy Jenkins about the future of British politics

Roy Jenkins: The effort has been worthwhile

Has the Alliance not based some inflated claims upon its standing in the polls?

No, because our claims are not based on the polls. They are to some extent confirmed by the polls, and there has been a movement of the polls which has been almost uniformly in our favour in the past week or so. But our claims are essentially based on what we have found on the ground.

I have no doubt at all that after a rather sluggish start our campaign began to pick up about two weeks ago and has gained momentum with every day since then. Everybody round the country confirms this, that people are keen to see us. We have been getting much bigger crowds, much greater enthusiasm. There is a surge to the Alliance. Quite how big it is we will see when the votes are counted.

But on Sunday Mr Steel stated as a fact that the Alliance had overtaken the Labour Party. That sounded rather sharp - less than honest.

I think it is true. It is my belief that we are now quite firmly the only realistic alternative to Mrs Thatcher. The Labour Party campaign really has been coming apart. I was in East London on Monday, the only bastion of the Labour Party in the south of England, and I believe they are disintegrating there.

If Labour is crushed today, do you expect the SDP to pick up ex-Labour recruits?

We don't know how many Labour MPs there will be. I don't predict. But I think there would be many Labour supporters who would rethink their position.

But if Labour emerges as the stronger challenger to the Conservatives, will that not be the beginning of the end for the SDP?

No, I think that, whatever happens, we have put down, to an extent that perhaps surprises me after only two years, sufficiently deep roots in the ground so that I am totally convinced that the SDP

will continue as a virile political force.

If after an upheaval the Labour Party becomes again what it was when you were a member as a young man, won't the SDP have served its purpose? And would you not be content for it to fade away?

I see no chance of this happening. I think if it is heavily defeated, and I believe it will be, then you will have a new bloodbath in the Labour Party. I think that the new parliamentary party will be more left-wing than the previous one which declined to elect Mr Healey and elected Mr Foot; that the grip of the left wing on the constituency parties is sufficiently strong that there is no prospect of change.

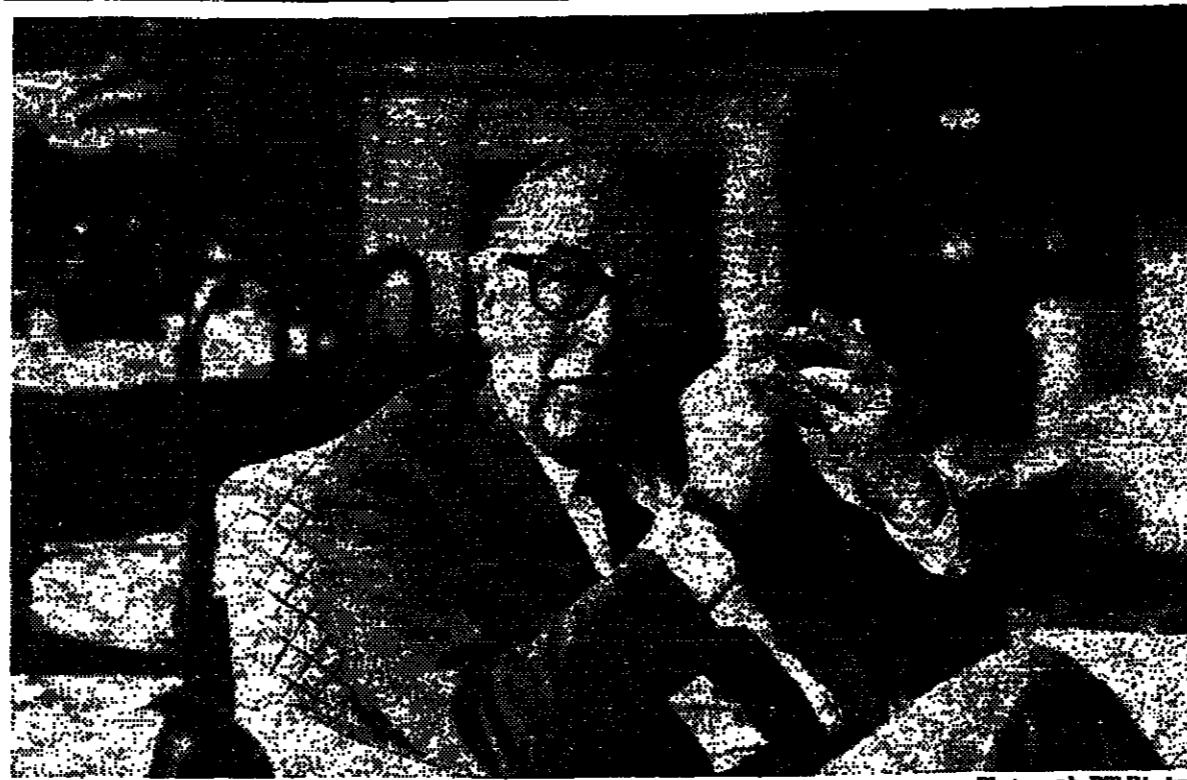
Labour faces a new bloodbath

The so-called moderate people in the Labour Party have been able to survive only by swallowing a lot of their principles and by backing a manifesto in which they don't believe. This has led them to have a very unhappy campaign. Mr Healey is the most notable example of that.

Have you moved on to a point where you would no longer be at home in the Labour Party of your youth?

My views have developed over a period and are not exactly what they were in the fifties. I think there would be something wrong with one's intellectual equipment if one's views remained absolutely static, particularly in the midst of changing circumstances, but I would claim that my views have developed in a fairly straight line.

You could beat Labour well into third place and still have only 40 Alliance MPs. If so, you will have achieved nothing, will you? Do not underestimate our capacity for winning seats. We are



Photograph: Bill Warburton

going very hard for turning votes into seats, and I think we are going to have a lot of success. Of course, if it does happen, if we poll many more votes than Labour and win far fewer seats, it will be a scandal for democracy. This would be a very strong moral position.

What issues have mattered most? What has mattered most is, can you get the economy going again without running into inflation? The Conservatives clearly offer no hope of a significant pick-up in the economy. The Labour Party offers nothing that would not lead straight into massive inflation, with no remedies for dealing with it.

I think the nuclear issue has been quite important, although certainly unilateralism has not been the benefit to the Labour Party that it thought it would be. Indeed, defence policy generally may, more than anything else, have been the issue on which the Labour Party fell apart in the early stages of the campaign.

Our policy has been firmly anti-unilateral and firmly in favour of seeking security through the Western Alliance, but equally opposed to be foolishness and danger of building up vast additional nuclear arsenals. This safety, which I would describe as safety through sanity, has been effective.

Thirdly, I would say the fear that a large Conservative majority would mean massive attacks on the public services, notably the health service, but the railways, too, and the education service, has been a significant issue and one on which we have pressed very strongly.

The fourth issue has been a feeling that Labour or Conservatives polarised the country, divided still further between class and class, north and south, employed and unemployed, inner cities and suburbs, and this has been a powerful factor working in our favour.

What has been the biggest drag on your campaign? A ganging up of the other parties?

Well, it is certainly the case that the other parties, in a curious way, although ideologically further apart than they have been for some time, are drawn together by desire not to see us challenge their monopoly of power.

I think one of the most remarkable statements of the campaign has been Mrs Thatcher's cry: "The Labour Party will never die." She does not want it to die, she wants to have it as an adversary because she knows it is an adversary she can beat. She is much more frightened of us because she by no means knows

we do not have to accept my hypothesis.

I believe without question that the effort has been worthwhile and that we have established ourselves. I believe we are here to stay. I believe firmly that over the next decade, maybe much sooner, maybe over the next 24 hours, we will see a completely different pattern of British politics in which the SDP, working with the Liberals, is a major force, and will be able to form a government, and that we will see a highly beneficial change in our electoral system and a number of other desirable constitutional changes. I have no doubt the effort has been worthwhile.

And if you lose your seat tomorrow, do you know what you will do?

No, I will think about it when I have recovered from the exhaustion of the campaign, which has not been excessive although substantial. I have had a very energetic campaign. I am rather surprised I have stood up to it quite so well.

Mrs Thatcher is much more frightened of us?

Did you see yourself, when you left Parliament for the European Commission, heading your own party and making at least a fight if not a general election?

When I left the Commons I thought the probability was that I was leaving it for the last time, but I never excluded the possibility that I might come back in some form. I was clear that I did not

Frank Johnson's campaign trail Tory heartland pays homage to heroine

And so to the last day.

Labour having been dealt with to her own satisfaction, the Prime Minister devoted her energies to constituencies where the issue lay between the Conservatives and the Alliance. That meant a descent on the cream-tea-and-scone belt of the Outer Home Counties. It was a welcome journey for those of us who take the anti-Orwell view that this part of England is less "real" or "warm" for not being sturdy, jovial specimens of Home Counties stock. He even had a wife named Fiona. All seemed under control.

From the helicopter port at Old Sarum, yes, the small hill which was once an entire parliamentary constituency before the Tories were forced by extremists to accept changed methods of reselection, we were bussed to Salisbury's fine market square.

A large crowd had gathered. The great majority were loyal. But there was quite a large disloyal element, who boozed and shrieked defiance. "You stand there shouting," Mrs Thatcher shouted back. "How pathetic you are, haven't got an argument left."

I retreated out of earshot to the edge of the throng. After four weeks on the trail, diverting though it has been, there comes a time when the old brain can take no more. The din must have been particularly disturbing for those of one's colleagues who had apparently celebrated the end of the Thatcher tour with an epic number of digestives late the previous night.

Mrs Thatcher brought her campaign to a climax by landing on the Isle of Wight, the British possession which she regards as having been illegally occupied by the Liberals since 1974. The launching of the attack from Salisbury was a complex operation involving helicopters, Wallace Arnold coaches, and a hovercraft. It was surprising there were so few deaths.

The journalists swarmed ashore from the helicopters in advance of the Prime Minister, though, from the sound of the previous night's debaucheries, their regiment was Too Paralytic rather than 2 Para.

Mrs Thatcher arrived in the shape of the prow of the hovercraft. At Cowes she met some resistance from forces loyal to the Liberal sitting candidate, Mr Stephen Key. As she approached the site of her open air meeting, jeers and boos greeted her as well as applause. But she overwhelmed them with her superior firepower, and left for London with the Tories confident that the Alliance everywhere will be seen off by the Isle of Wight Factor.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Candidates at risk

If the latest opinion polls are correct, the following dozen well-known candidates could fail to be reelected to Parliament. The expected time of each result being declared is in brackets.

Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Bristol E; Lab (1.30-2am); Mr James Callaghan, Cardiff S and Penarth; Lab (1.30-2am); Mrs Shirley Williams Crosby, Alliance (1.30am); Mr William Rodgers, Stockton N; Alliance (1.30-2am); Dr David Owen, Plymouth, Devonport; Alliance (1.30-2am); Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Croydon and Nantwich; Lab (2.30-3am); Mr Richard Wainwright, Colne Valley; Alliance (1.30-2am); Mr Albert Booth, Barrow and Furness; Lab (3.30-4am); Mr Jack Straw, Blackburn; Lab (12.30-1am); Dr Shirley Summerskill, Hailfax; Lab (12.30-1am); Mrs Reese Skeff, Wolverhampton NE; Lab (midnight to 12.30am).

Royal engagements, page 18

The pound, page 21

When the votes come in

The following are estimates of the expected times for the declaration of general election results tonight and tomorrow:

11.01-11.30pm:

Great Grimsby
Surry E
Torquay
Tunbridge Wells
Wolverhampton S

11.31-midnight

Barnsley cent
Barnsley E
Barnsley W and Peninsular
Bedfordshire SW

Cheltenham

Chester, City of Epping Forest

Faversham

Guildford

Kirkcaldy

Leigh

Pendle

Tyne Bridge

Warwick and Leamington

Wigan

Wolverhampton SW

Wrexham

12.01-12.30am

Ashford

Bedfordshire N

Bexhill & Battle

Bury St Edmunds

Chorley

Cynon Valley

Dover

Epsom & Ewell

Gadling

Harrow

Hazel Grove

Hertsmere

Hyndburn

Ilkeston

Keynsham

Kingswood

Lancashire W

Liverpool, Broadgreen

L'pool, Garston

L'pool, Mossley Hill

L'pool, Riverside

L'pool, Walton

L'pool, W. Derby

Leicester

Middleborough

Mole Valley

Newark

Newcastle upon Tyne C

Newcastle upon Tyne E

Newhaven

Nuneaton

Old Bedf ord & Sidcup

Pontypridd

Rainham

St Albans

Saffron Walden

Scarborough

Sheffield

Southgate

Stockport

Sussex, Mid

Warrington N

Warrington S

Weston-S-Mare

Wolverhampton NE

Worthing

Wycombe

Yeville

12.31-1 am

Aberavon

Airton & Sale

Amber Valley

Ashington & Sunderland

Aystonbury

Aylestone

Bridgwater

Bristol

Buntingford

Buntingford & Dagnam

Buntingford & Loughton

Buntingford & Totternhoe

Buntingford & Ware

Buntingford & Ware